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House of Representatives

The House met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer: Eternal God, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

We thank You that we are a Nation fashioned out of diverse peoples and cultures, brought forth on this continent in a way not unlike the ancient people of Israel. As out of a desert, You led our American ancestors to this promised land, where they declared their independence and constituted a new Nation founded upon unalienable rights given to us by You, our Creator.

Bless our Nation with wisdom, knowledge, and understanding, and bless the Members of this people's House. Renew in us the adoption by Your spirit, that we may affirm our freedoms, not only with the conviction in the way we understand others, but in ourselves by actions proven beyond words.

Bless us this day and every day. May all that is done here be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. FOXX led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Repub-

lic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

TIME TO SUBMIT A CREDIBLE PLAN

(Ms. FOXX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, families budget, small businesses budget, cities budget, churches budget, schools budget, my state of North Carolina budgets, but Washington does not.

Instead, year after year, budgetless Washington spends every single cent of the money it takes from the American people and \$1 trillion more.

Not since 2009 has the Democrat Senate bothered to pass a budget, and not since 2010 has President Obama submitted his plan for a budget on time.

When you don't plan, it's easy to overcommit. And when a country overcommits year after year after year, it ends up \$16.4 trillion in debt.

That debt doesn't just rob our future; it hurts Americans looking for jobs today. While government spending ballooned, 8.5 million more people have given up looking for work since 2009.

Mr. Speaker, the unchecked spending has got to stop. It's time to get this government on a budget. It's time for the President to submit a credible plan.

SEQUESTRATION

(Mr. COURTNEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. COURTNEY. Yesterday, Defense Secretary Leon Panetta bluntly warned if sequester happens on March 1 it's going to badly damage the readiness of the United States of America. It will go right at readiness, right at maintenance, right at training.

The Navy has told us too it will cancel maintenance on 23 ships, reduce flying hours on deployed aircraft carriers by 55 percent, cancel submarine deployments, and reduce steaming days by 22 percent.

The Bipartisan Policy Center has warned us that 1 million jobs will be lost if sequester happens.

What is the response of the majority party? The Budget chair, Mr. RYAN, simply said, "Sequester is going to happen. We can't afford to lose those cuts."

For the sake of our economy, for the sake of our national defense, we have to do better than that. Congress must adopt the President's balanced plan and avoid the economic and military calamity, a calamity that can easily be avoided.

REPLACING PRESIDENT OBAMA'S SEQUESTER

(Mr. BOEHNER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, President Obama missed a great opportunity today to help our economy. This was supposed to be the day that the President submitted his budget to the Congress, but it's not coming. It's going to be late. Some reports say that it could be as long as a month late. I think that's too bad. Our economy could use some Presidential leadership right now.

On Thursday, the President disbanded his jobs council after a grand total of four meetings in two years. Then, as Americans got to work on Friday, they learned that our economy still isn't creating enough jobs. The unemployment rate actually went up.

Now, if government spending does cause growth, as the President believes, we shouldn't be having these problems. And then maybe it wouldn't be so disappointing that his budget is late.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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H317

Well, we are having trouble, in large part because spending is the problem. It's what's chasing jobs overseas and causing much anxiety about our future.

One example of something the President's budget could have addressed is his sequester. A sequester is Washington-speak for automatic spending cuts. The President first proposed the sequester in 2011 and insisted that it be part of the debt limit agreement.

Now, twice the House has passed legislation to replace the President's sequester with commonsense reforms that would reduce spending and preserve and strengthen our safety net for future generations. We've spelled it all out. We've done our work because we're committed to getting spending under control, and we've long said there's a better way to cut spending.

Unfortunately, our Democratic colleagues in the Senate haven't taken action. They haven't acted on our plan to replace the President's sequester or haven't offered one of their own.

What we should do is replace the President's sequester with responsible reforms that will help balance the budget in 10 years. Our goal is to grow the economy, expand opportunity and prosperity, and ensure America maintains its leading role in the world with a strong national defense.

To do that we need to be budget responsibly. We need a budget that reflects those priorities. But to replace the President's sequester, we need our Democratic colleagues to get serious about spending.

I wish I could give the American people more cause for optimism, but we see the President's budget is late and the Senate hasn't passed a budget in nearly four years.

This week the House will act on a measure introduced by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. PRICE) that requires the President to submit a balanced budget, because we know—and I think the American people agree—spending is the problem. And the sooner we solve our spending problem, the sooner we'll solve our jobs problem too.

□ 1410

THANK YOU, LIZARD'S THICKET

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, in 1977, Bob and Anna Williams moved back to Columbia, South Carolina, from Alabama and opened a restaurant. Due to their hard work, Lizard's Thicket is now one of South Carolina's finest restaurant chains, celebrating 35 years of service. This real country cooking operation has grown to serve over 12,000 patrons a day at 15 different locations. Not only do people across the Palmetto State choose to dine at Lizard's Thicket for the outstanding home-style cooking,

they also return time after time for the exceptional customer service.

For the past few decades, my wife, Roxanne, and I have always cherished taking our children, grandchildren, and mother-in-law to this great restaurant where we enjoy completing the meal with a warm serving of peach cobbler.

I am extremely grateful for the Williams family, their three generations of service, and the jobs they have provided across the Midlands. I wish them future success and look forward to dining with them for another 35 years.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

IN MEMORY OF TED OGLE

(Mr. MESSER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of one of my constituents and a dear friend, Ted Ogle.

Ted was a loving husband and father, a loyal friend, and a highly effective public leader with a great passion for his country, his State, and his community. Over the last decade, Ted's work touched the careers of Hoosier elected leaders all across our State.

On a personal note, I will be forever indebted to Ted Ogle. Ted was one of the first and most vocal supporters in my campaign for State representative 10 years ago and, as Sixth District chairman, played a central role in last year's campaign for U.S. Congress.

Ted loved his family, loved his country and State, loved his friends, and loved the Indiana Republican Party. His passing came way too soon. Ted Ogle will never be forgotten, and he will be forever missed.

I ask the entire Sixth District to keep Anne, their children Eric and Nadia, and the entire Ogle family in your thoughts and prayers in the coming weeks and months.

PASS PAYCHECK FAIRNESS ACT

(Mr. KILDEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, last week on the fourth anniversary of the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act, I met with women leaders in my district to discuss the importance of ensuring women earn equal pay for equal work.

The women I met with told personal and powerful stories of how continued wage disparities have affected their families. In cities like Flint, Saginaw, and Bay City, women still only earn about 74 cents for every dollar that men do. That is unacceptable.

Mr. Speaker, the time is long overdue for women to be paid equal pay for equal work. Women make up half of our workforce, yet they are not paid the same as men for the same work. This means women have less money for

groceries, for rent, for child care, and for the everyday needs of their families.

Mr. Speaker, that's why I have co-sponsored the Paycheck Fairness Act, which seeks to close disparities in pay. It's time to pass the Paycheck Fairness Act. Until women receive equal pay for equal work, we will not be the just society that we ought to be.

UNLEASHING ECONOMIC POTENTIAL OF HARDWORKING AMERICANS

(Mr. ROTHFUS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ROTHFUS. Mr. Speaker, last week we received troubling economic news. In January, unemployment went up and 169,000 people gave up looking for work. And the economy stopped growing and actually shrank.

I rise today in solidarity with those looking for work and a higher income to pay their bills, loans, and mortgages. Those seeking a better lot want to know: Where are the jobs?

Before we address any other issue grabbing headlines today, Congress and the President need to make a priority of unleashing the potential of hardworking Americans and creating the conditions for a healthy economy. We must balance our budget, reform the Tax Code, reduce excessive regulations, and expand energy production.

I call on my colleagues in this House to refocus their attention and to work to accomplish these goals so that the American people can get back to pursuing their dreams.

AMERICA HAS A SPENDING PROBLEM

(Mr. BENTIVOLIO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BENTIVOLIO. Mr. Speaker, America has a spending problem. The numbers don't lie. With the national debt at \$16 trillion and climbing, each American's share is more than \$50,000. Things only stand to get worse. In fact, Federal spending is now projected to double to 40 percent of GDP in the next three decades. This out-of-control spending is a drag on our economy and a threat to our future.

The American people agree. Polls by Gallup, the Winston Group, and Politico last month indicate that Americans overwhelmingly support cutting government spending over raising taxes to address our debt. Despite the facts, President Obama and his fellow Democrats continue to deny we have a spending problem, pointing to more revenue as the answer to our debt crisis.

This Congress, House Republicans are committed to working together to find real spending cuts, meaningful reforms of the entitlement programs that are

driving us deeper into debt, and a fairer, cleaner Tax Code. We are committed to saving our economy for future generations, and I hope the President and his fellow Democrats will join us.

RESIGNATION AS MEMBER OF COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. STUTZMAN) laid before the House the following resignation as a member of the Committee on the Budget:

WASHINGTON, DC,
January 25, 2013.

Hon. JOHN BOEHNER,
Speaker of the House,
The Capitol, Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER BOEHNER: I am writing to inform you of my resignation, effective immediately, from the House Committee on the Budget. It is my intention that this is a leave of absence as I hope to serve on this Committee again in a future Congress. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me directly, or your staff can contact my Deputy Chief of Staff, Ian Rayder.

Sincerely,

DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ,
Member of Congress.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the resignation is accepted. There was no objection.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 5 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 17 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1705

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. SHIMKUS) at 5 o'clock and 5 minutes p.m.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Ms. Evans, one of his secretaries.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote incurs objection under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken later.

CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL GME SUPPORT REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2013

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill

(H.R. 297) to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize support for graduate medical education programs in children's hospitals.

The Clerk read the title of the bill. The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 297

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Children's Hospital GME Support Reauthorization Act of 2013".

SEC. 2. PROGRAM OF PAYMENTS TO CHILDREN'S HOSPITALS THAT OPERATE GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 340E of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 256e) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking "through 2005 and each of fiscal years 2007 through 2011" and inserting "through 2005, each of fiscal years 2007 through 2011, and each of fiscal years 2013 through 2017";

(2) in subsection (f)(1)(A)(iv), by inserting "and each of fiscal years 2013 through 2017" after "2011"; and

(3) in subsection (f)(2)(D), by inserting "and each of fiscal years 2013 through 2017" after "2011".

(b) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Section 340E(b)(3)(D) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 256e(b)(3)(D)) is amended by striking "Not later than the end of fiscal year 2011" and inserting "Not later than the end of fiscal year 2016".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. PITTS) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, I ask that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous material into the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Pennsylvania?

There was no objection.

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, Pennsylvanians are fortunate to have several excellent children's hospitals in the State. One of these hospitals is the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, the country's first hospital to exclusively care for children, and they have remained one of the best for over 150 years.

In a recent survey, the hospital was rated number one in six separate pediatric specialties and ranked no lower than fourth in another four specialty categories.

Other children around the country aren't so fortunate to have access to excellent doctors. A study in the journal Pediatrics found that more than 8 million children have no pediatrician in their area. Many other sick children have to drive hundreds of miles to see a doctor who specializes in treating their condition.

Children aren't just miniature adults, and treating them isn't just a

matter of working on a smaller scale and shrinking the equipment. A doctor who is experienced in treating adults may not be able to apply that same expertise to a child. Treating children is both a medical and an emotional challenge. Often, doctors have to correctly diagnose an illness in little patients who haven't even learned to speak. It takes a special person to go into pediatrics.

For a time in the 1990s, our Nation was facing an acute shortage of pediatricians. With much of government assistance to train doctors being funneled through the Medicare program, it was becoming significantly more expensive for a doctor to choose to be trained in pediatrics.

To help correct this imbalance, Congress created the Children's Hospital Graduate Medical Education program. This is a program that was created, and has been sustained, with bipartisan support.

Unfortunately, the program is facing elimination. President Obama's budget for the 2012 fiscal year called for elimination of the program, despite the positive results.

I support getting rid of programs that are duplicative, unproven, or unnecessary, especially with the budget pressures we are facing now; however, CHGME has a proven track record. Over 40 percent of pediatricians in the United States are trained through CHGME.

□ 1710

Forty-three percent of those in subspecialties are trained through the program.

The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia runs the largest pediatric residency program in the country. Their residents will treat children in my community and then move across the country to practice in other communities. We need their expertise now more than ever.

Last Congress, I worked with my Democratic counterpart on the Energy and Commerce Health Subcommittee, Representative FRANK PALLONE, to introduce legislation to renew the program. Our legislation passed the House of Representatives twice in the 112th Congress, both times by voice vote.

Unfortunately, the bill was tied up in the Senate and was not considered. Congressman PALLONE and I wasted no time in reintroducing the bill this year, and I'm proud to say that in the very first meeting of the Energy and Commerce Committee, on January 22, the bill was reported out unanimously. The bill is a very simple, 5-year reauthorization of the CHGME program at current funding levels.

H.R. 297 is supported by the Children's Hospital Association, the American Hospital Association, the Academic Pediatric Association, the American Academy of Pediatrics, the American Pediatric Society, the Association of Medical School Department Chairs, the Society for Pediatric Research, the

Association of American Medical Colleges, the American Osteopathic Association, and the American College of Surgeons, among others.

Far too many children in our Nation already lack access to a pediatrician or doctor trained in a pediatric subspecialty. Without CHGME, we will once again be discouraging medical residents from choosing pediatrics.

On a personal note, nearly 2 years ago, I met Anna Lipsman, who was receiving treatment for leukemia at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. Today, thanks to the excellent care she received, she is happy, energetic and in school full time. She continues to remind me about what is really at stake.

I urge all of my colleagues to vote "yes" on H.R. 297 and reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I'm pleased to rise in support of H.R. 297, the Children's Hospital Graduate Medical Education Support Reauthorization Act of 2013.

As every parent knows, it's very important to have a trusted doctor to turn to when their child gets sick. Since its inception in 1999, the Children's Hospital Graduate Medical Education program, known as CHGME, has helped to make sure that the doctor is there and prepared to diagnose any symptoms that our children face.

In fact, the program has been a true success. In the 1990s, declines in pediatric training programs threatened the stability of the pediatric workforce, and CHGME helped to reverse these dangerous declines. Even then, Congress, in a bipartisan way, recognized that if we didn't create and fund programs that would train doctors to treat these children, there won't be anyone left to take care of them.

That's why the House overwhelmingly supported reauthorization of the program in the 112th Congress, passing stand-alone legislation in September 2011 and also including the reauthorization in broader legislation in December 2012.

With this Federal CHGME support, children's hospitals can play a key role in ensuring the continued growth of our Nation's pediatric workforce. In 2009, the program supported the training of 5,361 resident physicians nationally. The program will also help to enhance hospitals' research capabilities and improve hospitals' ability to provide care to vulnerable and underserved children.

Reauthorizing CHGME continues to be one of my top health priorities, and I want to thank Congressman PITTS, the chairman of our Health Subcommittee, for working with me on this bill. Together with his help and leadership, we were able to move this bill again swiftly through our committee and to the floor upon convening this Congress.

Mr. Speaker, this program has proven results, and it's past time that we finally reauthorize CHGME so that we

can provide certainty to hospitals, doctors, and their patients. Children in our communities are counting on this program to train a future generation of pediatricians, and I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on the bill. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to now yield 3 minutes to my colleague from Rhode Island (Mr. CICILLINE).

Mr. CICILLINE. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

The reauthorization of the Children's Hospital Graduate Medical Education program is critically important and something we must do. But I rise today to express some frustration with the bill as presented.

Specifically, while our Nation faces an acute need for additional health professionals trained in psychiatry, this reauthorization continues a glaring mental health parity failure within the Children's Hospital Graduate Medical Education program: the failure to include children's psychiatric teaching hospitals in the program. Because Medicare classifies these hospitals as psychiatric hospitals rather than as children's hospitals, child psychiatric hospitals are ineligible to participate in CHGME.

This presents a particular burden to a spectacular pediatric hospital in my district, Bradley Hospital. And that is why, last Congress, I introduced the Children's Hospitals Education Equity Act, which was designed to fix this oversight by simply expanding the definition of a children's hospital to cover child psychiatric hospitals.

I'm disappointed, therefore, that the CHGME reauthorization is being considered under suspension of the rules today, as it prevents consideration of amendments to improve the program and to correct this omission in the bill.

Our Nation must fulfill its commitment to mental health parity, and Congress must do its part to enhance access to child and adolescent mental health care. Despite this shortcoming, I intend to support the bill, and I look forward to working with my colleagues in both parties and in both Chambers to correct this serious inequity. I thank the gentleman.

Mr. PALLONE. I have no additional speakers. I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, I urge Members to support this legislation. It has tremendous bipartisan support, and, with that, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support H.R. 297, the Children's Hospital GME Support Reauthorization Act of 2013.

H.R. 297 reauthorizes the children's hospital graduate medical education—or CHGME—program at the program's current authorization level. This program provides ongoing and consistent financial support to hospitals such as Children's Hospital of Los Angeles for the training of doctors who want to specialize in pediatrics. Over the years, the CHGME program has been enormously successful in reversing the significant decline in the number of

pediatrician trainees across the country. Indeed, today, children's hospitals nationwide that are supported by the program train 40% of all pediatricians and 43% of all pediatric specialists.

Not surprisingly, the CHGME program has a decade-long history of bipartisan support. The program was first established in 1999 and has subsequently been reauthorized on two occasions. During the 112th Congress, the House passed legislation that would have reauthorized the CHGME program for another five years.

I'm sure that Members of both sides of the aisle agree we want to make certain this important program remains in place, and we want to send a strong message about the importance of fully funding it.

I want to commend the work of members of the Energy and Commerce Committee for advancing H.R. 297 to the floor today. I especially want to recognize and applaud the leadership of Ranking Member PALLONE and Chairman PITTS on this bill. I know we are all hopeful the Senate will act quickly to enact H.R. 297, so we can send legislation to the President for his signature.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 297.

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I strongly support the Children's Hospital Graduate Medical Education program and I am a cosponsor of H.R. 297. This successful program is the most important federal investment in the pediatric workforce and must be reauthorized. Failure to do so would be catastrophic to pediatric care in our country. Since this program began, it has allowed Children's Hospitals across the country, including Texas Children's Hospital in Houston, to increase training by 35%.

I believe we must spend more on Graduate Medical Education entirely, but today we have the opportunity to extend the successful Children's Hospital program which, like other GME funds, is money well spent. Despite the successes of the program, there are still many pediatric specialties that are experiencing shortages. This bill will help address this and will continue to strengthen our pediatric workforce. I look forward to voting in favor of this bill and encourage my colleagues to do the same.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 297, the Children's Hospital GME Support Reauthorization Act of 2013. The Children's Hospital Graduate Medical Education Program not only provides a critical investment in the pediatric health workforce, but also helps improve children's access to health care.

The Children's Hospital Graduate Medical Education Program was first authorized in 1999 and has achieved incredible success. The program has enabled children's hospitals to host teaching programs while maintaining high-quality clinical care. It currently supports 56 children's hospitals and is responsible for a significant increase in the number of physicians trained in children's hospitals.

As the first registered nurse in Congress, I know firsthand that a well-trained primary care workforce is crucial to our health system. Only by ensuring the security of pediatric residency programs can we successfully work to promote the health of all Americans.

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 297 the "Children's Hospital Graduate Medical Education

(GME) Support Reauthorization Act of 2013” This legislation would authorize the appropriation of \$110 million a year for 2013 through 2017, for payment toward the direct costs of graduate medical education in children’s hospitals.

As the Founder and Co-Chair of the Congressional Children’s Caucus, I understand the importance of this vital program. The Children’s Hospital Graduate Medical Education Program (CHGME) trains 40 percent of our Nation’s pediatricians and more than half of our Nation’s pediatric subspecialists. Each year, over 5,000 residents take part in this program.

We are all aware that we must continue to support the development and training of all medical professionals. We must do more to ensure that we have enough qualified medical professional choosing to specialize in key fields in order to address the growth in both our baby boomers and child populations. I believe this legislation is a step in the right direction.

In the early 90’s, we witnessed a thirteen percent decrease in the amount of qualified graduate medical students entering into pediatrics. Upon the enactment of the Children’s Hospital Graduate Medical Education program we saw a significant increase in the amount of qualified medical school graduates choosing to enter into pediatrics, their numbers increased by 35 percent.

In 1999, Children’s Hospital Graduate Medical Education, CHGME, was enacted as part of the Healthcare Research and Quality Act to provide freestanding children’s hospitals with discretionary federal support for direct and indirect expenses associated with operating medical residency training programs. Since few children’s hospitals receive Medicare funds, the program is designed to correct the exclusion of pediatric training in the Medicare Graduate Medical Education, GME, program.

Under the Children’s Hospital Graduate Medical Education Program, direct medical education funding is designed to cover costs associated with stipends for residents, salaries, salaries for faculty, overhead and other costs of running a training program. The CHGME also provides indirect medical education funds that are designed to assist in expenditures such as reduced productivity of staff training residents and the processing of additional diagnostic tests those residents may order.

Graduate Medical Education, GME, begins upon graduation from medical school and passed the examination needed to obtain general board certification. GME in a specialty field (residency) and further specializations in a specific clinical field (fellowship) are generally provided in hospital settings with additional clinical experiences in non-hospital site. This can take between three and seven years to complete, depending on the medical, dental or podiatric specialty track chosen.

Freestanding children’s hospitals receiving Federal GME funds have increased the number of residents and fellows that they are training since 2000:

The number of residents and fellows claimed for Federal support for the 2000 Federal fiscal year (FY) was about 4,263.

In the latest Government Performance Results Acts, GPRA, report for Federal FY 2009, the hospitals described training 5,631 pediatricians, pediatric subspecialists, and other physicians in the clinical care of children within the U.S.

Of the 5,631 resident FTEs being trained, about 48 percent were in general pediatrics, 24 percent were in pediatric subspecialties, and 28 percent were non-pediatric residents.

In FY 2009, 56 children’s hospitals located in 30 states and Puerto Rico had nearly half a million inpatient discharges. Children’s hospitals vary in size and service mix. The number of available beds at these hospitals varies from 30 to 456.

These freestanding children’s hospitals provide services ranging from outpatient ambulatory care to inpatient critical care.

TEXAS

In Texas, excluding military and Veterans Affairs programs, there are currently 5,902 resident physicians in Texas training in 468 accredited graduate medical education (GME) programs.

It is likely that many of these resident physicians will join the ranks of the 39,872 licensed physicians currently practicing in Texas.

These practicing and resident physicians, together with 656 resident physicians training in Texas military and Veterans Affairs hospitals, provide health care to Texas 22,016,911 people.

Texas ranks 40th nationally in the number of physicians per 100,000 civilian population and faces serious challenges in attracting physicians to locate and practice in rural, remote, and urban underserved areas.

With Texas’ population increasing at both age ends of the population spectrum, the ratio of 158 direct patient care physicians per 100,000 population ratio will likely not improve unless policy changes are implemented to encourage expansion of the Texas physician workforce and foster greater distribution of physicians across the state. As Texas continues to grow in general, pediatric and our aging population we will more physicians—and more specialized physicians—to care for our citizens.

With 25 percent of Texas total population uninsured and 22 percent of its children uninsured, Texas has the highest number of uninsured individuals in the country. Which is one of the many reasons I supported the Affordable Health Care Act.

The majority of under-insured Texans receive health care through the our network of locally tax-funded and privately funded teaching hospitals and clinics.

Uninsured Texans play an important role in graduate medical education; they are one of the groups of patients that residents care for and treat, while honing their medical skills and expertise.

Graduate medical education is just one piece, albeit an important piece, of the complex health-care delivery system. While ensuring the viability of the safety-net hospitals and clinics in Texas is important to the future of Texas, solving all of the problems associated with ensuring that viability is beyond the scope of this. The medical school/hospital partnerships responsible for training many of the next generation of Texas physicians are stressed financially. Especially Children’s Hospitals.

The GME and The CHGME programs both train resident physicians while providing essential health-care services to those who might not otherwise receive access to care.

Currently, Five children’s hospitals in Texas benefit from the CHGME program: Texas Children’s Hospital (Houston), Children’s Medical Center of Dallas, Driscoll Children’s Hospital

(Corpus Christi), Dell Children’s Hospital (Austin) and Cook Children’s Hospital (Fort Worth). Last year alone, more than \$23 million in CHGME funds was allocated to Texas.

I can say that Texas Children’s is the largest pediatric hospital in the nation, providing medical care in more than 40 pediatric subspecialties. It also has the largest pediatric cancer and hematology research and treatment center in the country

As an internationally recognized children’s hospital it is the primary pediatric training site for Baylor College of Medicine, which has one of the largest pediatric residency programs in the country.

Baylor College of Medicine, operates the nation’s first Children’s Nutrition Research Center, a U.S. Department of Agriculture facility that conducts research on the nutritional needs of pregnant and nursing women and their children.

Since opening its doors in 1954, Texas Children’s Integrated Delivery System has cared for more than one million children from every corner of the world and has more than 2 million patient encounters a year.

Together with Baylor, Texas Children’s participates in approximately 400 research projects annually and received \$59 million in research funding in 2003. Current projects include testing of medications to improve the quality of life for patients with HIV infection and AIDS; diagnostic methods based on DNA analysis for cystic fibrosis, muscular dystrophy, and other genetic disorders; development of treatments through human gene therapy; and other basic and applied research studies.

I must also mention the Lyndon Baine Johnson General Hospital operated by the Harris County Hospital District, it is the second primary teaching facility or the University of Texas at Houston. They have been dedicated to serving the people of Houston for over two decades. Those who are fortunate enough to receive their training under the CHGME program may very well one day be treating children who arrive at this hospital.

We must remember who these soon to be specialists will serve . . . our nation’s children. Children like Audrina, who was born in October of last year. Little Audrina was born with her heart outside of her body. After six hours of surgery, baby Audrina is going home. Supporting funding for programs like the CHGME supports the training of specialists who will one day save the lives of countless children.

FAST FACTS—CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION (CHGME)

The Children’s Hospital Graduate Medical Education, CHGME, Payment Program currently supports 56 children’s hospitals in 30 States.

Train about a third of the Nation’s pediatricians.

Trains about 50 percent of pediatric subspecialists.

The CHGME Payment Program has provided more than 2 billion dollars to eligible freestanding children’s hospitals since its inception.

Fifty-Six U.S. hospitals participate in the program, which enables them to:

Provide GME to graduates of medical schools.

Enhance research capabilities.

Care for vulnerable and underserved children.

A hospital is eligible to apply for CHGME Payment Program funding if it:

Participates in an approved Graduate Medical Education (GME) program.

Has a Medicare Provider Agreement.

Is excluded from the Medicare Inpatient Prospective Payment System, IPPS, under section 1886(d)(1)(B)(iii) of the Social Security Act, and its accompanying regulations.

Operates as a "freestanding" children's teaching hospital.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. PITTS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 297.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the yeas have it.

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

NATIONAL PEDIATRIC RESEARCH NETWORK ACT OF 2013

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 225) to amend title IV of the Public Health Service Act to provide for a National Pediatric Research Network, including with respect to pediatric rare diseases or conditions.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 225

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "National Pediatric Research Network Act of 2013".

SEC. 2. NATIONAL PEDIATRIC RESEARCH NETWORK.

Section 409D of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 284h; relating to the Pediatric Research Initiative) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (d) as subsection (f); and

(2) by inserting after subsection (c) the following:

"(d) NATIONAL PEDIATRIC RESEARCH NETWORK.—

"(1) NETWORK.—In carrying out the Initiative, the Director of NIH, acting through the Director of the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development and in collaboration with other appropriate national research institutes and national centers that carry out activities involving pediatric research, may provide for the establishment of a National Pediatric Research Network consisting of the pediatric research consortia receiving awards under paragraph (2).

"(2) PEDIATRIC RESEARCH CONSORTIA.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the Institute may award funding, including through grants, contracts, or other mechanisms, to public or private nonprofit entities—

"(i) for planning, establishing, or strengthening pediatric research consortia; and

"(ii) for providing basic operating support for such consortia, including with respect to—

"(I) basic, clinical, behavioral, or translational research to meet unmet needs for pediatric research; and

"(II) training researchers in pediatric research techniques in order to address unmet pediatric research needs.

"(B) RESEARCH.—The Director of NIH shall ensure that—

"(i) each consortium receiving an award under subparagraph (A) conducts or supports at least one category of research described in subparagraph (A)(ii)(I) and collectively such consortia conduct or support all such categories of research; and

"(ii) one or more such consortia provide training described in subparagraph (A)(ii)(II).

"(C) NUMBER OF CONSORTIA.—The Director of NIH may make awards under this paragraph for not more than 20 pediatric research consortia.

"(D) ORGANIZATION OF CONSORTIUM.—Each consortium receiving an award under subparagraph (A) shall—

"(i) be formed from a collaboration of co-operating institutions;

"(ii) be coordinated by a lead institution;

"(iii) agree to disseminate scientific findings, including from clinical trials, rapidly and efficiently; and

"(iv) meet such requirements as may be prescribed by the Director of NIH.

"(E) SUPPLEMENT, NOT SUPPLANT.—Any support received by a consortium under subparagraph (A) shall be used to supplement, and not supplant, other public or private support for activities authorized to be supported under this paragraph.

"(F) DURATION OF SUPPORT.—Support of a consortium under subparagraph (A) may be for a period of not to exceed 5 years. Such period may be extended at the discretion of the Director of NIH.

"(3) COORDINATION OF CONSORTIA ACTIVITIES.—The Director of NIH shall—

"(A) as appropriate, provide for the coordination of activities (including the exchange of information and regular communication) among the consortia established pursuant to paragraph (2); and

"(B) require the periodic preparation and submission to the Director of reports on the activities of each such consortium.

"(4) ASSISTANCE WITH REGISTRIES.—Each consortium receiving an award under paragraph (2)(A) shall provide assistance to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in the establishment or expansion of patient registries and other surveillance systems as appropriate and upon request by the Director of the Centers.

"(e) RESEARCH ON PEDIATRIC RARE DISEASES OR CONDITIONS.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—In making awards under subsection (d)(2) for pediatric research consortia, the Director of NIH shall ensure that an appropriate number of such awards are awarded to such consortia that agree to—

"(A) focus primarily on pediatric rare diseases or conditions (including any such diseases or conditions that are genetic disorders (such as spinal muscular atrophy and Duchenne muscular dystrophy) or are related to birth defects (such as Down syndrome and fragile X)); and

"(B) conduct or coordinate one or more multisite clinical trials of therapies for, or approaches to, the prevention, diagnosis, or treatment of one or more pediatric rare diseases or conditions.

"(2) DATA COORDINATING CENTER.—

"(A) ESTABLISHMENT.—In connection with support of consortia described in paragraph (1), the Director of NIH shall establish a data coordinating center for the following purposes:

"(i) To distribute the scientific findings referred to in paragraph (1)(C).

"(ii) To provide assistance in the design and conduct of collaborative research projects and the management, analysis, and

storage of data associated with such projects.

"(iii) To organize and conduct multisite monitoring activities.

"(B) REPORTING.—The Director of NIH shall—

"(i) require the data coordinating center established under subparagraph (A) to provide regular reports to the Director of NIH and the Commissioner of Food and Drugs on research conducted by consortia described in paragraph (1), including information on enrollment in clinical trials and the allocation of resources with respect to such research; and

"(ii) as appropriate, incorporate information reported under clause (i) into the Director's biennial reports under section 403."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. PITTS) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous materials into the RECORD on the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Pennsylvania?

There was no objection.

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support and urge my colleagues to vote for H.R. 225, the National Pediatric Research Network Act of 2013.

Simply put, this legislation will foster important research on diseases that affect children. The bill will allow the National Institutes of Health to establish a national research network comprised of pediatric research consortia. According to NIH, there are between 6,000 and 7,000 diseases considered rare that affect 25 to 30 million people. Most of the approximately 7,000 rare diseases are pediatric diseases and often genetic.

Sadly, there are insufficient therapies for doctors to treat such diseases. The use of pediatric research consortia is a proven way to support pediatric applied research and to promote coordinated research activities that focus on translating research to practice. This will help improve care for children.

As an example, it is important to note that this bill will address some devastating diseases such as spinal muscular atrophy. This is a rare pediatric disease that kills more babies than any other genetic disease. Right now, it is incurable, untreatable, and fatal.

H.R. 225, introduced by Representatives LOIS CAPPS and CATHY MCMORRIS RODGERS, amends the Public Health Service Act so that the director of the NIH, acting through the director of the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, could provide for the establishment of a national pediatric research network comprised of pediatric research consortia.

□ 1720

The director could award cooperative agreements to those that strengthen and provide basic support to pediatric research consortia and train researchers. Consortia that receive an award would be comprised of cooperating institutions and coordinated by a lead institution. No more than 20 pediatric research consortia could receive awards.

In addition, the Director of NIH would be able to establish a data-coordinating center to support research and distribute scientific findings and provide reports to the Director of the NIH and the Commissioner of the Food and Drug Administration.

The bill would result in no new or increased budget authority, entitlement authority, tax expenditure, or revenues. Nor does the bill contain any earmarks.

So I am pleased to support this legislation. It is my hope that the National Pediatric Research Network will improve our understanding of pediatric diseases, improve treatment and therapies, and provide better health care outcomes for our Nation's children.

I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of H.R. 225, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 225, the National Pediatric Research Network Act, and commend our colleagues, Congresswoman CAPPS and Congresswoman McMORRIS RODGERS, for their bipartisan efforts to move this legislation forward.

There are many rare pediatric diseases, and in some of these diseases the children are incredibly fragile. If we can allow for research to occur across the country—not just one single location—research can be done at a larger level because children could then participate without having to travel.

This bill would allow the National Institutes of Health to establish a national pediatric network comprised of up to 20 pediatric research consortia, groups of collaborating institutions. The consortia will conduct basic clinical, behavioral, and translational research on pediatric diseases and conditions.

Among the 20 consortia, the NIH Director is directed to ensure that an appropriate number of awards go to consortia that focus primarily on pediatric rare diseases such as spinal muscular atrophy or birth defects such as Down syndrome.

In addition, we all know too well that traditionally pediatric research has been underfunded. That can make it hard to train and develop the research talent needed to address these devastating illnesses. The consortia can therefore be the training grounds for future researchers helping to fill the pediatric pipeline.

Mr. Speaker, no funds are specifically allocated to this effort under the bill, but it's our hope and expectation that NIH will choose to create the net-

work and build on the important work in pediatric research that it already supports.

In the last Congress, this same bill was considered and approved by the Energy and Commerce Committee and the full House by voice vote. It was also included in a broader children's health bill at the end of the session, but it failed to be considered in the Senate.

I urge my colleagues to support this bipartisan effort to address pediatric research; and with that strong support, it's my hope that we can encourage its passage in the Senate this time.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, at this time, I yield such time as he may consume to the chairman of the full committee, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. UPTON).

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, this legislation, H.R. 225, the National Pediatric Research Network Act of 2013, indeed brings us a step closer to helping kids with unmet health needs, especially those with rare pediatric and genetic diseases. According to the NIH, there are more than 6,800 rare diseases, and most of them have no treatment or cure; and, yes, they primarily affect children.

I've met a number of times with one family in my district, the Kennedys, who have two precious little girls, Brielle and Brooke. I actually call them Sleeping Beauty and Cinderella. They have the rare disease called spinal muscular atrophy. They're great kids, and Brielle and Brooke have been little warriors in our effort to make the National Pediatric Research Network a reality.

It is so difficult to conduct research into these diseases due to the very small number of people with that disease, but tonight we're working to provide families like the Kennedys and so many others with greater hope for a cure or advances in treatment.

This bill is going to support and coordinate research on rare pediatric and genetic diseases and help improve the health and well-being of these kids afflicted with these diseases.

This bill establishes a national pediatric research network comprised of pediatric research consortia. These consortia are a proven way to overcome the gaps in research. They include leading institutions that act as partners to consolidate and coordinate research efforts. They're going to promote efficiency and collaboration, which is especially important when a disease impacts just a small number of kids.

This bill is in essence the same bill as H.R. 6163 of the last Congress, which passed in September and was part of S. 1440 in December of 2012. Last month, in January, our committee, the Energy and Commerce Committee, passed this legislation on a very broad bipartisan voice vote.

I want to particularly commend the author of the legislation, LOIS CAPPS. I

want to thank CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS on our side, the Republican side, for her leadership, as well as JOE PITTS, Mr. WAXMAN, and others. This is a bill that all of us should support, and I would urge my colleagues to do the same thing.

It was unfortunate that last year it took the House a little while to pass this; and in the last waning days of the session, we couldn't get the Senate to move. This year, there's a reason why this is now one of the first bills to pass in the House: to give the Senate the time to get this thing done and get it to the President's desk to have him sign it into law so that he can help not only the Kennedys in my district, but the Kennedys literally in every district around the country and so many kids that deserve our help. We can make a difference tonight, and we will when we pass this on a bipartisan vote.

I thank all those Members and staff, particularly, for getting this to the floor in such a timely fashion.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I now yield 4 minutes to the sponsor of the legislation, the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. CAPPS).

Mrs. CAPPS. I thank my colleague for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 225, the National Pediatric Research Network Act.

I want to associate myself with the remarks of our committee chairman, Mr. UPTON. He has a family dear to his heart, as I have one too; and they reflect families across this country for whom this bill will provide a stronger glimmer of hope for the future.

This is a bipartisan bill. It will improve research in clinical trials on pediatric diseases, train future pediatric researchers, and disseminate research findings quickly so that all children may benefit.

It does not replace our current pediatric research investments, but instead builds upon the work already being done at the National Institutes of Health and at so many research centers across the country by creating research consortia to form a nationwide network of pediatric researchers. This is important to make sure that we are always working with the most current science and that this information is quickly shared and verified.

This bill will also expand the geographic scope of research, giving sick kids easier access to research programs and clinical trials. Moreover, this bill will help a wider variety of institutions participate in this critical research while providing training grounds for our next generation of pediatric researchers.

Another key feature of this bill is that it will place an added emphasis on researching children's rare diseases and develop new treatments to fight them.

My colleagues have heard me talk before about diseases like spinal muscular atrophy just referenced by our committee chair. This does not just affect a sick child, but it also fundamentally changes the daily lives of their

family, their school, their community. The low prevalence of such diseases makes them particularly hard to research. But for those affected, a new cure or treatment could mean a world of difference.

The National Pediatric Research Network Act will be an important step forward to helping these families and those who may develop these diseases long into the future.

□ 1730

I am a nurse, a mother, and a grandmother as well, and I am very pleased to have authored this bill that will help bring more treatments and cures to many children.

Children have unique health care experiences, treatment needs, research challenges; and while public and private research has come a very long way on pediatric diseases over the years, we know that we are still far behind on important diagnostics, cures, and treatments for far too many of our ailing children, which is why this bill is so important.

I especially thank Representative CATHY MCMORRIS RODGERS for co-leading this bill through two Congresses with me and for all her hard work on children's health issues. I want to thank the leadership of the Energy and Commerce Committee. Chairman UPTON I have referenced, but I also thank Ranking Member WAXMAN, Chairman PITTS, Ranking Member PALLONE, and their staffs for their dedication to this bill. I especially thank Ruth Katz for helping us move this bill through the committee quickly. I thank my colleague Congresswoman DEGETTE, who has worked on this bill with me for many years.

Finally, I would like to thank my constituents Bill and Victoria Strong for their tireless work on behalf of their daughter, Gwendolyn, and all the children with spinal muscular atrophy and other rare diseases. For them, I wear a particular bracelet, which reads: "Never give up." Gwendolyn, who it was once thought would never live past age 2, is now in kindergarten. The work her parents, Bill and Victoria, do day in and day out to make their daughter's world a little better is so inspiring. The dedication of her parents and their medical team truly allows Gwendolyn to live life to the fullest. They have shown how entire communities can come together and fight diseases like SMA.

I urge my colleagues to follow their example. Come together, and support this bill today so we can do all we can to make it law.

Mr. Speaker, the National Pediatric Research Network Act is an important bill, not just for current and future researchers, but for sick children and for their families. It is a bipartisan measure that received overwhelming support in the 112th Congress, and it's the right thing to do, so I urge its full support.

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. HARPER).

Mr. HARPER. I rise today to speak about the importance of the National Pediatric Research Network Act of 2013. This bill rightfully develops pediatric research consortia to identify and promote therapies for rare childhood diseases.

One of the disorders that this proposal targets is spinal muscular atrophy, or SMA, which is the number one genetic killer of children under the age of 2. This often unforgiving neurological disease leaves children weak and unable to move, breathe, swallow or talk; but research is promising and a cure is close.

Recently, a friend of mine, Jeff Horton from my home county in Mississippi, shared with my office that his daughter, Evie, who has SMA, had an encouraging visit with an SMA specialist in Dallas. You see, Evie has toured the country and has met with experts devoted to advancing new and innovative SMA therapies. As a result, Evie's quality of life continues to improve as she gains mobility and a sense of independence.

I urge you today to please support this legislation for Evie and others, such as her cousin, Reese, and the many other families that are affected by rare childhood diseases. This is something that we can do and that we should do.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time. At this point, I would urge the passage of the legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to include in the RECORD CBO's cost estimate for H.R. 225. The cost estimate was not available when the committee filed its report on the bill.

I urge all Members to support this important legislation. With that, I yield back the balance of my time.

U.S. CONGRESS,
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,
Washington, DC, February 4, 2013.

Hon. FRED UPTON,
Chairman, Committee on Energy and Commerce,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The Congressional Budget Office has prepared the enclosed cost estimate for H.R. 225, the National Pediatric Research Network Act of 2013.

If you wish further details on this estimate, we will be pleased to provide them. The CBO staff contact is Jamease Miles, who can be reached at 226-9010.

Sincerely,

DOUGLAS W. ELMENDORF.

Enclosure.

H.R. 225—National Pediatric Research Network Act of 2013

H.R. 225 would authorize the Director of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to establish a National Pediatric Research Network that could provide support for research and training at up to 20 pediatric research consortia for up to five years. The bill would require the Director of NIH to establish a data coordinating center for the consortia. Upon request by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), consortia participating in the program would be required to provide assistance to the CDC to establish or expand surveillance systems, such as patient registries.

NIH currently supports many research networks that support research and training focused on pediatric health care needs and operates data coordinating centers for those networks. Those networks perform essentially the same activities as the consortia described in the bill. Existing networks do not routinely provide assistance to the CDC to establish surveillance systems. Based on information provided by NIH, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 225 would have no effect on the number of research consortia or data coordinating centers that NIH would support. CBO expects that CDC would request assistance from a few networks to establish surveillance systems. Based on past coordination involving patient registries, CBO expects that the cost of providing such support would total about \$1 million over five years. Thus, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 225 would cost \$1 million over the 2014–2018 period, assuming the availability of appropriated funds.

Enacting the bill would not affect direct spending or revenues; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply.

H.R. 225 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would not affect the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Jamease Miles. The estimate was approved by Holly Harvey, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise in support of H.R. 225, the National Pediatric Research Network Act of 2013. The House passed legislation similar to H.R. 225 twice last year. I am hopeful that this time around we will get this bill over the finish line.

H.R. 225 represents a bi-partisan effort to allow the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to establish a national pediatric research network dedicated to finding treatments and cures for pediatric diseases and conditions—especially those that are rare. The network would be comprised of up to 20 research consortia or groups of collaborating research institutions such as universities and hospitals. These consortia would be investigator-initiated and would conduct basic, clinical, behavioral, and translational research on pediatric diseases and conditions. NIH funding would be used to create the infrastructure necessary to carry out this research.

Within the network, the NIH Director is instructed to ensure that an appropriate number of awards go to those consortia that focus primarily on pediatric rare diseases such as spinal muscular atrophy—or SMA—or birth defects such as Down syndrome. Because these kinds of diseases and conditions are rare and some of the children who suffer from them are very fragile, it makes it difficult for them to travel great distances to participate in clinical trials or other research. This is often the case when—not infrequently—only one institution is conducting such research. The availability of consortia—by definition, multiple cooperating institutions—should make clinical research opportunities far more accessible to these kids and their families. In turn, we would hope they would help speed up the time and effort in finding treatments and cures for these devastating diseases and conditions.

In addition to the research itself, the consortia are expected to serve as training grounds for future pediatric researchers. Traditionally, pediatric research has been underfunded. This has sometimes resulted in real challenges in recruiting the talent necessary to

tackle diseases and conditions that affect kids—again, especially those that are rare. Thus, H.R. 225 places a special emphasis on pediatric research techniques with the goal of helping to “prime the pump” for a greater number of leading edge pediatric researchers.

Taken together, the components of H.R. 225 make for a package that would allow NIH to build on the strong body of pediatric research that it currently conducts and supports. I would encourage NIH to take full advantage of this opportunity.

I want to commend all those members of the Energy and Commerce Committee who have come together to make H.R. 225 happen. I especially want to note the efforts of Congresswoman CAPPS and Congresswoman MCMORRIS RODGERS—the sponsors of this bill—for their tireless efforts to bring it before us today.

I urge my colleagues to vote “yes” on H.R. 225.

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I support the National Pediatric Research Network Act, H.R. 225. Thank you to Representatives CAPPS and MCMORRIS-RODGERS for their continued leadership on this issue.

This important bill will allow the National Institutes of Health to focus funding on researching rare and genetic pediatric diseases such as spinal muscular atrophy, muscular dystrophy, Down syndrome, and Fragile X. Because there are such a small number of incidences of these terrible diseases, they are extremely difficult to study. This bill takes steps toward giving our research community the tools necessary to increase research of an array of diseases that cause so much pain and suffering to children and their families.

Increasing our nation's commitment to researching rare pediatric diseases is an area that enjoys bipartisan support. I look forward to voting for this bill and urge my colleagues to do the same.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. PITTS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 225.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO THE SITUATION IN OR IN RELATION TO CÔTE D'IVOIRE—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 113-8)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides

for the automatic termination of a national emergency, unless, within 90 days prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13396 of February 7, 2006, with respect to the situation in or in relation to Côte d'Ivoire is to continue in effect beyond February 7, 2013.

The situation in or in relation to Côte d'Ivoire, which has been addressed by the United Nations Security Council in Resolution 1572 of November 15, 2004, and subsequent resolutions, has resulted in the massacre of large numbers of civilians, widespread human rights abuses, significant political violence and unrest, and fatal attacks against international peacekeeping forces. Since the inauguration of President Alassane Ouattara in May 2011, the Government of Côte d'Ivoire and its people continue to make progress towards peace and prosperity, the situation in or in relation to Côte d'Ivoire continues to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States. For these reasons, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency and related measures blocking the property of certain persons contributing to the conflict in Côte d'Ivoire.

BARACK OBAMA.

THE WHITE HOUSE, February 4, 2013.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 6:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 36 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1830

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. SHIMKUS) at 6 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

PROVIDING FOR A JOINT SESSION OF CONGRESS TO RECEIVE A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Mr. CULBERSON. Mr. Speaker, I send to the desk a privileged concurrent resolution and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the concurrent resolution, as follows:

H. CON. RES. 11

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring),

That the two Houses of Congress assemble in the Hall of the House of Representatives on Tuesday, February 12, 2013, at 9 p.m., for the purpose of receiving such communication as the President of the United States shall be pleased to make to them.

The concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on motions to suspend the rules previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

H.R. 225, by the yeas and nays;

H.R. 297, by the yeas and nays.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Remaining electronic votes will be conducted as 5-minute votes.

NATIONAL PEDIATRIC RESEARCH NETWORK ACT OF 2013

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 225) to amend title IV of the Public Health Service Act to provide for a National Pediatric Research Network, including with respect to pediatric rare diseases or conditions, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. PITTS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 375, nays 27, not voting 29, as follows:

[Roll No. 31]

YEAS—375

Alexander	Cantor	Culbertson
Amodel	Capito	Cummings
Andrews	Capps	Daines
Bachmann	Cárdenas	Davis (CA)
Bachus	Carney	Davis, Danny
Barletta	Carson (IN)	Davis, Rodney
Barr	Carter	DeFazio
Barrow (GA)	Cartwright	DeGette
Barton	Cassidy	Delaney
Bass	Castor (FL)	DeLauro
Beatty	Castro (TX)	DeBene
Becerra	Chabot	Denham
Benishek	Chaffetz	Dent
Bentivolio	Chu	DeSantis
Bera (CA)	Ciçilline	DesJarlais
Billirakis	Clarke	Deutch
Bishop (NY)	Clay	Diaz-Balart
Bishop (UT)	Clyburn	Dingell
Black	Coble	Doggett
Bonamici	Coffman	Doyle
Bonner	Cohen	Duckworth
Boustany	Cole	Duffy
Brady (PA)	Collins (GA)	Duncan (TN)
Brady (TX)	Collins (NY)	Edwards
Braley (IA)	Connolly	Ellison
Brooks (IN)	Cook	Elmers
Brownley (CA)	Cooper	Engel
Buchanan	Costa	Enyart
Bucshon	Courtney	Eshoo
Burgess	Cramer	Esty
Bustos	Crawford	Farenthold
Calvert	Crenshaw	Fattah
Camp	Crowley	Fincher
Campbell	Cuellar	Fitzpatrick

Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Foster
Frankel (FL)
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Fudge
Gallego
Garamendi
Garcia
Gardner
Garrett
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gibson
Gingrey (GA)
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (MO)
Grayson
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Grijalva
Grimm
Guthrie
Gutierrez
Hahn
Hall
Hanabusa
Hanna
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Heck (NV)
Heck (WA)
Hensarling
Higgins
Himes
Hinojosa
Holding
Holt
Honda
Horsford
Hoyer
Huelskamp
Huffman
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Israel
Issa
Jackson Lee
Jeffries
Jenkins
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan
Joyce
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilmer
Kind
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kinzinger (IL)
Kirkpatrick
Kline
Kuster
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Lance
Langevin
Lankford
Larson (CT)
Latham
Latta
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis

NAYS—27

Amash
Bridenstine
Broun (GA)
Conaway

Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loeb
Lofgren
Long
Lowenthal
Lowe
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lujan Grisham (NM)
Luján, Ben Ray (NM)
Lynch
Maffei
Maloney, Carolyn
Maloney, Sean
Marino
Markey
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McCarthy (NY)
McCaul
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
McHenry
McIntyre
McKeon
McKinley
McMorris
Rodgers
Meadows
Meehan
Meng
Messer
Mica
Michaud
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller, Gary
Miller, George
Moore
Mulvaney
Murphy (FL)
Murphy (PA)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Negrete McLeod
Noem
Nolan
Nugent
Nunes
Nunnelee
O'Rourke
Olson
Owens
Palazzo
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor (AZ)
Paulsen
Payne
Pearce
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Perry
Peters (CA)
Peters (MI)
Peterson
Petri
Pingree (ME)
Pittenger
Pitts
Pocan
Polis
Pompeo
Posey
Price (GA)
Price (NC)
Quigley
Rahall
Rangel
Reed
Reichert
Renacci
Rice (SC)
Rigell
Roby
Roe (TN)

Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rokita
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Rothfus
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Ruiz
Runyan
Ruppersberger
Ryan (OH)
Ryan (WI)
Salmon
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Scalise
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schock
Schrader
Schwartz
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Sewell (AL)
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuster
Sinema
Sires
Slaughter
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Southerland
Speier
Stewart
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Terry
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tierney
Tipton
Titus
Tonko
Tsongas
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Van Hollen
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Wagner
Walden
Walorski
Walz
Wasserman
Schultz
Waters
Watt
Waxman
Webster (FL)
Welch
Wenstrup
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Williams
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Yarmuth
Yoder
Young (IN)

Lummis
Marchant
Massie
McClintock
Mullin
Aderholt
Barber
Bishop (GA)
Blackburn
Blumenauer
Brooks (AL)
Brown (FL)
Butterfield
Capuano
Cleaver
Messrs. STOCKMAN, CONAWAY, Mrs. LUMMIS, Messrs. ROHR-ABACHER, STUTZMAN, NEUGEBAUER, POE of Texas, and HUDSON changed their vote from “yea” to “nay.”
Mr. CARTWRIGHT changed his vote from “nay” to “yea.”
So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.
The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.
A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Neugebauer
Poe (TX)
Radel
Ribble
Rohrabacher
Yoho
NOT VOTING—29
Conyers
Farr
Fortenberry
Gabbard
Herrera Beutler
Kingston
Larsen (WA)
McNerney
Meeks
Moran
Richmond
Rush
Scott, David
Simpson
Smith (WA)
Stivers
Walberg
Young (AK)
Young (FL)
ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE
The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining.
□ 1853
Messrs. STOCKMAN, CONAWAY, Mrs. LUMMIS, Messrs. ROHR-ABACHER, STUTZMAN, NEUGEBAUER, POE of Texas, and HUDSON changed their vote from “yea” to “nay.”
Mr. CARTWRIGHT changed his vote from “nay” to “yea.”
So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.
The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.
A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL GME SUPPORT REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2013

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 297) to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize support for graduate medical education programs in children's hospitals, on which the yeas and nays were ordered. The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. PITTS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 352, nays 50, not voting 29, as follows:

[Roll No. 32]

YEAS—352

Alexander
Amodei
Andrews
Bachmann
Bachus
Bartlett
Barr
Barrow (GA)
Barton
Bass
Beatty
Benerra
Benishke
Bera (CA)
Bilirakis
Bishop (NY)
Bishop (UT)
Black
Bonamici
Bonner
Boustany
Brady (PA)

Brady (TX)
Braley (IA)
Brooks (IN)
Brownley (CA)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Burgess
Bustos
Calvert
Camp
Campbell
Cantor
Capito
Capps
Cárdenas
Carney
Carson (IN)
Carter
Cartwright
Cassidy
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)

Chabot
Chaffetz
Chu
Cicilline
Clarke
Clay
Clyburn
Coble
Coffman
Cohen
Cole
Collins (NY)
Connolly
Cook
Cooper
Costa
Courtney
Crawford
Crenshaw
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings

Daines
Davis (CA)
Davis, Danny
DeFazio
DeGette
Delaney
DeLauro
DelBene
Denham
Dent
DeSantis
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle
Duckworth
Duffy
Edwards
Ellison
Ellmers
Engel
Enyart
Eshoo
Esty
Farenthold
Fattah
Fincher
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Forbes
Foster
Frankel (FL)
Frelinghuysen
Fudge
Gallego
Garamendi
Garcia
Gardner
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gibson
Gingrey (GA)
Goodlatte
Gosar
Granger
Graves (MO)
Grayson
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Grijalva
Grimm
Guthrie
Gutierrez
Hahn
Hall
Hanabusa
Hanna
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Heck (NV)
Heck (WA)
Higgins
Himes
Hinojosa
Holding
Holt
Honda
Horsford
Hoyer
Hudson
Huffman
Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Israel
Issa
Jackson Lee
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Joyce
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilmer
Kind

King (NY)
Kinzinger (IL)
Kirkpatrick
Kline
Kuster
LaMalfa
Lance
Langevin
Larson (CT)
Latham
Latta
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Lofgren
Long
Lowenthal
Lowe
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lujan Grisham (NM)
Luján, Ben Ray (NM)
Lynch
Maffei
Maloney, Carolyn
Maloney, Sean
Marino
Markey
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McCarthy (NY)
McCaul
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
McHenry
McIntyre
McKeon
McKinley
McMorris
Rodgers
Meadows
Meehan
Meng
Messer
Mica
Michaud
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller, Gary
Miller, George
Moore
Mullin
Murphy (FL)
Murphy (PA)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Negrete McLeod
Noem
Nolan
Nugent
Nunes
Nunnelee
O'Rourke
Olson
Owens
Palazzo
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor (AZ)
Paulsen
Payne
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Perry
Peters (CA)
Peters (MI)
Peterson
Petri
Pingree (ME)
Pitts
Pocan
Polis
Pompeo
Posey
Price (GA)
Price (NC)
Quigley
Rahall
Rangel
Reed

Reichert
Renacci
Ribble
Rigell
Rohrabacher
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Rothfus
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Ruf
Runyan
Ruppersberger
Ryan (OH)
Ryan (WI)
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Scalise
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schock
Schrader
Schwartz
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Sewell (AL)
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuster
Sinema
Sires
Slaughter
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Southerland
Speier
Stewart
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Terry
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tierney
Tipton
Titus
Tonko
Tsongas
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Van Hollen
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Wagner
Walden
Walorski
Walz
Wasserman
Schultz
Waters
Watt
Waxman
Webster (FL)
Welch
Wenstrup
Whitfield
Williams
Wilson (FL)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Woodall
Yarmuth
Yoder
Young (IN)

NAYS—50

Amash	Garrett	Mulvaney
Bentivolio	Gohmert	Neugebauer
Bridenstine	Gowdy	Pearce
Broun (GA)	Graves (GA)	Pittenger
Collins (GA)	Hensarling	Poe (TX)
Conaway	Huelskamp	Radel
Cotton	Jenkins	Rice (SC)
Cramer	Jordan	Rokita
Culberson	King (IA)	Salmon
Davis, Rodney	Labrador	Schweikert
DesJarlais	Lamborn	Stockman
Duncan (SC)	Lankford	Stutzman
Duncan (TN)	Loebuck	Weber (TX)
Fleming	Lummis	Westmoreland
Flores	Marchant	Wilson (SC)
Foxx	Massie	Yoho
Franks (AZ)	McClintock	

NOT VOTING—29

Aderholt	Conyers	Richmond
Barber	Farr	Rush
Bishop (GA)	Fortenberry	Scott, David
Blackburn	Gabbard	Simpson
Blumenauer	Herrera Beutler	Smith (WA)
Brooks (AL)	Kingston	Stivers
Brown (FL)	Larsen (WA)	Walberg
Butterfield	McNerney	Young (AK)
Capuano	Meeks	Young (FL)
Cleaver	Moran	

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining.

□ 1902

Mr. BENTIVOLIO changed his vote from “yea” to “nay.”

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 31, H.R. 225—National Pediatric Research Network Act of 2013, had I been present, I would have voted “yea.”

On rollcall No. 31, H.R. 297—Children’s Hospital GME Support Reauthorization Act of 2013, had I been present, I would have voted “yea.”

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 444, REQUIRE PRESIDENTIAL LEADERSHIP AND NO DEFICIT ACT

Mr. WOODALL, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 113-8) on the resolution (H. Res. 48) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 444) to require that, if the President’s fiscal year 2014 budget does not achieve balance in a fiscal year covered by such budget, the President shall submit a supplemental unified budget by April 1, 2013, which identifies a fiscal year in which balance is achieved, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

LET’S START BUDGETING RESPONSIBLY

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, the only way for Washington to control its spending problem is to start budgeting, and budgeting responsibly.

House Republicans have passed responsible budgets for 2 consecutive years that restore economic growth and reduce our deficits. Unfortunately, the Senate has not passed a budget in 4 years, and today the President missed the deadline for submitting his own budget to Congress for the fourth time in the last 5 years.

You don’t have to look much further than these facts to learn why Washington has such a hard time living within its means. For this reason, the House is advancing a series of initiatives to force Washington’s hand.

On January 23, 2013, the Chamber passed the No Budget, No Pay Act, which forces the Senate to pass a budget or Members of Congress will lose their pay. This week the House will consider legislation forcing the President to produce a balanced budget or submit a plan that indicates the earliest year he believes fiscal balance can be achieved.

Hardworking Americans run their households by setting a budget and then living within those means. It’s time for Washington to do the same.

□ 1910

PULSE OF TEXAS—RONALD FROM KINGWOOD, TEXAS

(Mr. POE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, Ronald from Kingwood, Texas, writes me this:

My family and I paid taxes, raised a family, contributed to the community and our church. But we are very disappointed in Washington. Our government is spending money it doesn’t have. And our President says, in other words, Tax those Americans who have worked hard, balanced their household budgets, saved, and have been successful.

My wife and I always thought that was the American Dream. In 2013, our taxes have gone up. Why? Why? Why? Because Congress doesn’t cut its spending. There should be no tax increases on any Americans until there are significant spending cuts. Normal Americans can’t simply borrow money. So why should government? I’ve worked hard for what I’ve achieved. Now why should we pay more taxes just because Washington has a spending addiction?

Mr. Speaker, we can’t tax our way and spend our way into prosperity.

And that’s just the way it is.

REMEMBERING THEODORE “TED” W. OGLE

(Mr. ROKITA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. ROKITA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and salute a remarkable Hoosier, Theodore “Ted” W. Ogle. He was a true leader in his home

of Columbus, Indiana. He left us way too soon.

Mr. Ogle served his community in many ways, including as a youth sports official and coach, as a board member of the Big Brothers and Big Sisters, and for 16 years on the Columbus City Council. Most recently, he served local Republicans as county and district chair. He was my dear friend.

I got to know Ted best when I first ran for office and needed his support. Ted said he was happy to see me but that his boys had a swim meet, and if I needed to see him, it was going to have to be there. So off I went to see him that day. To be honest, I probably learned more about swimming than politics.

As this Chamber knows, politics can be a tough business. There’s always another meeting, another event, another obligation. It is all too easy to push our family life to the back burner. In his own quiet but direct way, Ted showed me where he set his priorities, and when it came time for me to have a wife and children, where I should set mine. I try to do that.

That was Ted Ogle—a man truly committed to God, his family, his country, and his party. I will miss his friendship, counsel, and most of all, his good example.

A REMEMBRANCE OF THE HEROES OF THE SPACE SHUTTLE “COLUMBIA—STS” 109

(Mr. OLSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, on April 12, 1981, the space shuttle *Columbia* blasted off into space to launch America’s space shuttle program. She would complete 28 missions, with over 300 days in space. As every American knows, we lost *Columbia* as she came home on February 1, 2003. We all mourn the seven brave astronauts who lost their lives that day. We’ll never forget Commander Rick Husband, Pilot Willie McCool, and the five mission specialists: Michael Anderson, David Brown, Kalpana Chawla, Ilan Ramon from Israel, and Laurel Clark.

As a Member of Congress who grew up with astronauts, I have been blessed to meet some of the families of *Columbia*’s last crew. One of them said words I’ll never forget:

In their final moments, *Columbia* and her crew came home to Texas.

May the *Columbia* crew rest in peace with our eternal thoughts and blessings.

REMEMBERING FORMER NEW YORK MAYOR ED KOCH

(Mr. ENGEL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ENGEL. This morning, I attended the funeral of former Congressman and former mayor Ed Koch in New

York City. Ed was larger than life. He was a great mayor of the city of New York, a fantastic Congressman before that, and a personal friend of mine and so many others. It's generally thought that Ed was the one who brought New York City back from the bad days—starting the good days. He was the quintessential mayor of New York, walking up and down the streets when he was mayor, asking people, “How am I doing?”

I just want to say this body had the good fortune to have had Ed Koch as one of its Members, and New York City had the good fortune to have him as mayor for three terms, and I had the good fortune to have him as my friend. In later years, he and I would meet periodically and go out for lunch at one of the restaurants downtown in mid-Manhattan. Ed would always pick the restaurant and be as feisty as ever. He was a very proud, proud New Yorker, and we are very proud of Congressman and Mayor Ed Koch. I will miss him dearly, as will all of New York and America. May he rest in peace.

CONGRESSIONAL PRAYER CAUCUS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HUDSON). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2013, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. FORBES) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the subject of this Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Virginia?

There was no objection.

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the opportunity to come to the floor tonight to discuss our Nation's rich spiritual heritage and the foundation it laid for the religious freedoms we still enjoy today. I'm hosting this Special Order hour as founder and co-chairman of the Congressional Prayer Caucus, a bipartisan group with more than 90 Members of the House of Representatives dedicated to protecting religious freedom in America and preserving our Nation's rich spiritual heritage. I co-chair this caucus with my good friend, Mr. MIKE MCINTYRE, a Democrat Member from North Carolina. We founded the caucus in 2005 to formally acknowledge the important role that faith plays in American life and to recognize our Nation's religious heritage. We're working to guard these legacies for future generations.

Members of the Congressional Prayer Caucus gather each week in the United States Capitol, just a few feet from here, to pray for our Nation. We leave political labels at the door and we join in prayer for one another and our country. We all know how unusual it is in the current political climate for Mem-

bers to unite across the aisle and work together. Yet throughout the more than 200-year history of our Nation, prayer has played a vital role in strengthening the fabric of our society.

Mr. Speaker, our prayers build upon the legacy that was established by early legislators. In fact, the first act of America's first Congress in 1774 was to ask a minister to open with prayer and lead Congress in the reading of four chapters of the Bible. As our fledgling Nation grew and encountered overwhelming challenges, time and time again we saw our Nation's leaders turn to God in prayer.

We live in a challenging time. Wherever I go, I encounter people who want to know if the future of America is optimistic or pessimistic. When I review the insurmountable challenges our Nation overcame to get to this point—the Civil War, World War II, the Great Depression, and so many more—I believe our future is optimistic. As long as there are men and women in our government and throughout our Nation who continue to turn to God for help, we'll always have hope.

In addition to joining in prayer each week, members of the Prayer Caucus also work together to preserve the presence of religion, faith, and morality in the marketplace of ideas. We're seeing increased efforts to remove references to God and faith from the public square. Activists seek to remove “God” from our national motto and Pledge of Allegiance. They seek to prevent city and county councils from praying and recognizing our Nation's spiritual heritage. And they seek to silence people who wish to live out their faith.

□ 1920

Members of the Prayer Caucus have countered these efforts, successfully ensuring that our history remains intact for future generations.

In the 112th Congress, I introduced a resolution reaffirming our national motto “In God We Trust” and encouraging its public display in public buildings. The measure passed overwhelmingly by a vote of 396–9. Some ask why we needed to reaffirm our national motto; yet if left unstated, the motto could be changed in a de facto manner.

On November 2010, before a worldwide audience in a much publicized speech focusing on the United States' relationship with the Muslim world, President Obama incorrectly proclaimed that our national motto was “E Pluribus Unum.” Despite a bipartisan letter from 42 Members of Congress, the President didn't correct his inaccurate statement. Now, thanks to the House passage of the In God We Trust resolution, children across America know that if God can be displayed on the walls of their classroom, they cannot be prevented from talking about him at school.

Members of the Prayer Caucus also worked to correct inaccuracies and omissions in the Capitol Visitor Cen-

ter. In 2008, the over-half-billion-dollar Capitol Visitor Center opened for the purpose of educating over 15,000 Capitol visitors daily on the legislative process, as well as the history and development of the architecture and art of the U.S. Capitol.

When Members toured the facility, however, CVC historians had censored the building of any references to our Judeo-Christian history. They had replaced the inscription of “In God We Trust” inscribed right behind you on the Speaker's rostrum with stars and a replica of the House Chamber and had cropped an actual picture of the Chamber so you could not see the words “In God We Trust.”

Additionally, a plaque was placed in the CVC falsely educating visitors that the national motto was *E Pluribus Unum*. They had not included the Pledge of Allegiance in the CVC because it referenced God. Only after Members of Congress intervened publicly and legislatively were these omissions and inaccuracies corrected.

I am proud to partner with my good friend, Mr. MIKE MCINTYRE, in leading this extraordinary group of Members in the Congressional Prayer Caucus, and I'm so pleased to be joined this evening by my colleagues who are working to protect religious freedom in America and around the world.

Mr. Speaker, at this time I would like to yield to my colleague and my good friend from New Mexico (Mr. PEARCE).

Mr. PEARCE. I thank the gentleman for yielding and for his work on the Prayer Caucus. I would also acknowledge my good friend, MIKE MCINTYRE, for his work. This idea of religious freedom and liberty is indeed a bipartisan issue.

Our Founding Fathers came here from countries that had monarchs—kings—kings that could tell a person who they were to marry, what job they could have, what level of education they might attain. They could tell you what church you must be a member of. It was those state-ordained religions that many came to this country to get away from. They came here with an idea of a government that could only declare what your freedoms were, not limit those freedoms. It was that freedom of religion that caused many of the colonies to be organized differently, by different faiths—and some by no faith at all. It was in that backdrop that the Constitution was written which caused our Founding Fathers great pause.

The initial Constitution was written and could not be ratified. It could not be ratified by enough States until more freedoms were added, more freedoms that began with the First Amendment to the Constitution, the amendment that declared that we would have religious freedoms, that the government could make no laws concerning those freedoms.

Our Founding Fathers well understood the value of free and open expression of religious faith, one that was

free from the tentacles of government, one that was free for each person to choose, to exercise or to not exercise. Our Founding Fathers were not hesitant to declare their reliance on divine guidance.

Shortly after our Revolution—that revolution of ideas that started this grand experiment of self-governance—it was amazing that France decided they would try the same thing. But they were oh so uncertain about this divine guidance, this relationship with a higher power; and so they wanted something more tangible.

Their revolution became about reason. The problem with reason was that it was a human-ordained institution. We ourselves, we as people would not acknowledge that we were to comply with a higher power. That reliance on reason among men resulted in the chaos that became the French Revolution. It never found the success that the American Revolution had. I believe that much of that failure—and much of our success—was the difference in reliance, that difference of internal commitment to values and rules outside oneself.

Our Founding Fathers well understood that we, in order to have a Republic, must be a moral Nation. They declared that a Republic or democracy—whichever you would call it—can't impose through tremendous tyrannical restraints. It depends on us having a voluntary compliance with laws.

They feared a Federal Government that was too strong. The Constitution repeatedly limits the power of the Federal Government because they knew what strong centralized governments would do. They had to escape from Europe to get away from those exact things.

Today, we find a central government that is willing to compromise our freedom of religion and the freedom of expression of religion. Whether a person has a religious belief or not, it should cause you concern that this government is willing to take away the conscience protections. To make people buy products that offend their basic core beliefs should be alarming to any single member of this country, any single citizen. To find a government that will declare doctors have to perform acts that offend their very conscience is something that should give us all pause. But, instead, we see a Federal Government charging more heartily into the fray, even to diminishing and dismissing the belief in a higher power.

I think that that's the reason that the Congressional Prayer Caucus is so necessary and so needed at this time, because a Nation that forgets the real values is at risk of much greater catastrophe than what we've seen thus far, much greater catastrophe than an economy sagging brings, the loss of jobs brings. Because right now, we in America are struggling to find out what's in our heart.

We see many who are declaring that people are essentially good. The prob-

lem is not the person; the problem is in the guns, for example. I would say that the greater problem in America is not guns. The problem in America is the heart of America. Until we acknowledge and begin to reflect on that, until we begin to teach the new generations the importance of our heart in aligning with the heart of God, I think this Nation is going to go through more turmoil, more questions.

Our recommendation is that this Congress would stay away from limiting religious freedoms. I would request that every single citizen of this country contemplate those limitations that are currently being considered, those attempts to silence those in the faith community. A secular government is far different from a secular society, and yet that appears to be the discussion that we're having.

So, again, I would like to thank the gentleman from Virginia for his leadership in this issue. I would like to thank all of the members of the Congressional Prayer Caucus. But I would especially like to thank the members and the citizens of this country for the unflagging belief that there is something more important than the human ideas. There's something more powerful, more stable, and more permanent than our current viewpoints on policies. Those are the laws of God that are inherent and knowledgeable to each one of us.

Again, I thank the gentleman for his leadership on this issue.

□ 1930

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman for his great work on religious freedom and religious liberty issues, and thank you for sharing that tonight.

Mr. Speaker, as individuals watch Congress across the country, one of the big criticisms they always talk about is all of the partisanship that hits here, and they just don't get to see the Congressional Prayer Caucus. If they did, they would see what they are going to see on this floor tonight, and that is my co-chairman, who is also one of my dearest friends in here tonight, and that is MIKE MCINTYRE. He is a Democrat from North Carolina; I'm a Republican from Virginia. But I can tell you that I have just the utmost respect for him, and I think he does for me.

It is my honor to now yield the floor to him.

Mr. MCINTYRE. Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you Congressman FORBES, Randy, for your friendship and your leadership, undying, uncompromising leadership to help the Congressional Prayer Caucus be the great spiritual force and practical legislative force that it is in its witness and its work.

And I'm thrilled to join my colleague, Congressman FORBES, and my other colleagues from both sides of the aisle who meet regularly for the Congressional Prayer Caucus, and particularly this week, as we get ready for the

National Prayer Breakfast coming up this Thursday.

Many Americans don't realize that this is a tradition that has gone on now for many years. In fact, this will be the 61st National Prayer Breakfast coming up this Thursday morning. I hope folks back home will tune in.

This has happened every single year since President Eisenhower, by every single President; and we are excited that the President and First Lady will be with us again, as they have been the last four years, and that this will be a time to see about 3,000 people from around the world gather together from about 140 nations to come and ask God's blessings and wisdom as we begin this new Congress in this new year.

But let me say in even a broader context, as Congressmen Forbes and Pearce have indicated, the Congressional Prayer Caucus is to carry on that, that in addition to supporting the National Prayer Breakfast this Thursday is to carry it on throughout the year and to affirm our commitment to maintaining and strengthening our great country's religious freedom.

Through the more than 200-year history of our Nation, we know that faith, prayer, and trust in God have played a vital role in strengthening the fabric of our society. We are incredibly blessed to live in a country that was founded on the bedrock of faith and allowing our citizens to worship freely and without fear of persecution, which is guaranteed by our Constitution.

Our Founding Fathers knew the importance of faith to the success of our infant democracy and affirmed it in the Declaration of Independence, declaring that our unalienable rights that we love to talk about as Americans, our rights of life and liberty and the pursuit of happiness, are endowed to us by our Creator.

Indeed, faith was so integral to our new government that on Tuesday, September 6, 1774, the very first act of the first Continental Congress was to pause and join together in prayer. So this tradition doesn't just go back 61 years as we celebrate with the National Prayer Breakfast this week; it goes back to the very beginning of the first Continental Congress.

It's from these historic underpinnings that our Nation has grown and thrived, and we stand here today on the shoulders of those Americans who stood up and boldly fought for our rights to practice our faith freely. And we must never grow complacent, as Congressman FORBES pointed out, in some of the specific areas that we've had some issues recently. It's our duty to defend and protect the rights of all Americans, especially in a place like the U.S. Capitol, where we ought to be able to gladly recognize what our Nation's religious heritage has been.

Today we face many serious challenges as a Nation, and it's never been more important that we join together to ask God for guidance in making the right decisions. And that's why, during

the first vote each week, we gather right across the hall here during that first vote, if it's on Monday night or Tuesday night or sometimes even the middle of the week on Wednesday, but when we gather during that first vote to step across the hall, leave party labels at the door and ask God, like Solomon did in the Old Testament, for wisdom for that week for those decisions that we make.

We hear so much about partisanship. And having gone through an election recently that partisanship was in its full glory, I think it's reassuring to the citizens of this country to know that there are those of us who do want to reach across the aisle and who realize that faith and prayer transcends the partisan divide that we too often hear about here in Washington.

We pray together each week because we recognize, as our Founders did, that the true source of power is not found in the Halls of Congress or in the Oval Office of the West Wing or in the Chambers of the Supreme Court, but on our knees before the throne of grace before Almighty God. And it's with that bold truth in mind that we gather this week with thousands of people of faith during the National Prayer Breakfast. And it's in this spirit that Members of this body gather every week just across the hall in room 219 to reaffirm our trust in God and recognize the profound reconciling power of prayer and to ask God for His grace and His guidance.

I hope for those of you who are here in this Chamber and those who may be listening back home that you will join us, particularly this week, as we pray for God's blessing upon our Nation, for His will to be done throughout the world, for His peace to dwell in all of us, His children, as we gather for the National Prayer Breakfast. But I also hope you'll go to a Web site beyond this week, the Congressional Prayer Caucus Web site, and say, Yes, Mike, yes, Randy, yes, we do want you, men and women up there, to make the right decisions, you better believe it, because our country is that important, our future is that important, and we do want to make sure that we go forth as one Nation, under God, with liberty and justice for all.

With that, I will also submit a copy of a prayer from Thomas Jefferson, the author of the Declaration of Independence and, as we know, our third President, and pray that God's blessings will be upon this great Nation, not only this week during the National Prayer Breakfast, but with the work of the Congressional Prayer Caucus and those of you who will join us back home, individually, through your families, your churches, your places of worship, your fellowship groups or prayer groups, that you too will join us in making sure that we are building a wall of prayer around our Nation's Capitol, just as Nehemiah built the wall in the Old Testament.

Almighty God, Who has given us this good land for our heritage; we humbly

beseech Thee that we may always prove ourselves a people mindful of Thy favor and glad to do Thy will. Bless our land with honorable ministry, sound learning, and pure manners. Save us from violence, discord, and confusion, from pride and arrogance, and from every evil way. Defend our liberties, and fashion into one united people, the multitude brought hither out of many kindreds and tongues. Endow with Thy spirit of wisdom those whom in Thy name we entrust the authority of government, that there may be justice and peace at home, and that through obedience to Thy law, we may show forth Thy praise among the nations of the earth. In time of prosperity fill our hearts with thankfulness, and in the day of trouble, suffer not our trust in Thee to fail; all of which we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I pray God's blessings upon our Nation, and I yield back to our great leader and co-chairman of the Congressional Prayer Caucus, Congressman FORBES.

Mr. FORBES. Thank you so much for your leadership and your courage and your friendship, and we appreciate your words tonight and we'll treasure them.

Mr. Speaker, one of the true leaders in the House of Representatives is a lady from North Carolina. It's often said, when VIRGINIA FOXX speaks, everybody listens, and we're delighted tonight to have her here and to listen to her speak.

With that, I would like to yield the floor to the gentlelady from North Carolina.

Ms. FOXX. I would like to thank the gentleman from Virginia for that nice introduction, but especially thank him for leading this Special Order tonight and for being such a leader with our Congressional Prayer Caucus. He has given great illustrations of the ways the Congressional Prayer Caucus has taken action.

Mr. PEARCE, the gentleman from New Mexico, has given us an excellent history lesson, and our colleague, Mr. MCINTYRE from North Carolina, has helped to round out with information about the National Prayer Breakfast, and one of the reasons why we're focusing on the topic of the Prayer Caucus this week. I think they've given great context.

I want to say, Mr. Speaker, that we realize that God, the author of freedom, has given us a free land, and we praise Him for it. That freedom is the basis of everything else that we do in this country. This week, many people of faith will gather in Washington, D.C., to pray to Almighty God for wisdom and guidance and, above all, for obedient hearts to carry out His will.

The size and scope of the challenges before us would overcome a faithless people, so we acknowledge our desperate need for continued blessing and direction. We ask God to make us thankful, because ours is a country

founded upon religious freedom and deference to our Creator and not to government. We enjoy a societal understanding that dissent is not disloyalty. The United States upholds the God-given rights of its citizens to believe as they are called and to live their faith in accordance with their convictions. That individuals may set their own course so boldly is why creative excellence and individual property are capstones of citizenship.

We ask God for hearts vigilant to observe the numerous blessings He has given. And we ask for mercy not to stray from being good stewards of His gifts, to visit orphans and widows in their distress, to always protect liberties of conscience, to seek justice, love mercy, and follow humbly after God.

Only by His grace do we, who serve in this Congress, have any hope of being able to humble ourselves in service to others.

□ 1940

Only by His grace can we be safeguarded from trite competition and self-exaltation. Only by His grace can we do what my constituent Rob Lee encouraged and go outside our pride to "pray for our leaders, regardless of their political ideologies."

Our God is a loving God, and He is our defense. We ask Him often to keep a hedge of protection around our men and women deployed throughout the world for freedom's sake. We know it is the example of our Savior Jesus Christ, who lived the words "greater love hath no man than this, that he lay down his life for his friend," that inspires the brave generosity of so many of our warriors.

Our Lord is faithful to be near the brokenhearted when evil and sorrow have temporary triumphs in this world. We pray that His justice will be swift, and His righteousness our great relief.

To have even the slightest chance of living up to our oath and doing right by the people we serve, we need the help of Almighty God. This week, as ever, we reflect on that reliance and declare our thanks once again that we continue to be beneficiaries of His most awesome grace.

Mr. FORBES. I would like to thank Congresswoman FOXX for those remarks and for her leadership.

Now, Mr. Speaker, we have a gentleman from Oklahoma who has been a longtime leader in religious freedom and religious liberty issues. It is my privilege to yield the floor to him now, Mr. JAMES LANKFORD.

Mr. LANKFORD. It is my pleasure to be here. Thank you.

The National Prayer Breakfast coming up this week is a great reminder to us as a Nation just to be able to slow down, not as Republicans and Democrats, but as Americans, to be able to come together and do what we always do: to pray. It's what we've done from the very beginning. We are a people of prayer.

I enjoy getting a chance to tell people at home in Oklahoma about how Members of Congress get together to be able to pray in the Prayer Caucus time. We gather privately just to be able to sit down and pray. The House and the Senate both open every day in prayer.

Sitting on the platform of the inauguration just a few weeks ago, President Obama asked two different individuals to pray during that ceremony time. It should put to rest forever the debate whether we have prayer in public places when you see it in the House, in the Senate, in the executive branch, prayers repeated over and over again, and have from the very beginning.

We have our national optimism because we believe that this world and this Nation, they were created with a purpose, and that the Creator cares for His creation. From our founding documents, we believe that all people are created equal and are given certain rights from God, including life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. We're different as America because we believe that our rights come from God, not from men, and our core values come from something greater than ourselves.

For many Americans, prayer is just a normal part of their day. It's like breathing in and out for them. As they go through the course of the day, they pray. That's no different for our many elected leaders, as well. We don't walk away from God because we're elected. We challenge our fellow Americans to do the same. We need His wisdom. We need His love. And it is in the moment when we are most arrogant and think that we meet our own needs that we forget to pray. But it's in the moment when we are needy as a Nation, as we are right now, we remember to pray.

At 8 years old, I remember extremely well sitting in church up in the balcony of our big church and realizing for the first time in my life there is a God and I don't know him. I spent the rest of that day thinking and processing through what it means to know God. As an 8-year-old boy, I laid in bed that night and I prayed to Jesus for the first time in my life that I would be forgiven of my sin, and I began a relationship with this God who made me. It was my first prayer, but it's definitely not been my last.

As a Nation, we understand how it begins, as well. If you walk out in the rotunda here in the Capitol, you'll see a huge painting hanging in the rotunda that's called the "Embarkation of the Pilgrims." It was a painting done and hung in the rotunda in 1843, and it's supposed to depict the beginning of America. You know what the painting is of? The painting is of a group of Pilgrims gathered on the deck of a ship praying. It is the painting that is the beginning of America.

Last week at a town hall meeting in Konawa, Oklahoma, as they're gathered around to deal with a very difficult water issue in their town, do you know how they started their city council meeting? With a prayer. It's quite

frankly the same way that I ended my day last night before I headed to Washington, D.C., kneeling beside my daughter's bed to pray. It's what we do as Americans. It's quite frankly when we're at our best. And it's a good thing for us as a Nation to slow down and remember, it's good to pray.

God bless our Nation this week as we do exactly that as a nation in this National Day of Prayer: to pray.

Mr. FORBES. I would like to thank Congressman LANKFORD for his words and for his strong work throughout the year on these issues.

Now it is now my privilege to yield to another individual that's been a passionate leader on religious freedom and religious liberty, Congressman LOUIE GOHMERT from Texas.

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend from Virginia for having this time tonight. There's no better occasion than the National Prayer Breakfast.

My dear friend from Virginia leads each week when we're in session the first night of the week with bipartisan prayer. There is so much disagreement on this floor. I know my good friend from Texas, AL GREEN, and I have disagreement on issues, but he is my Christian brother and we prayed together tonight. It's a great honor to do that.

There's so much misinformation out there about the starting of this country, and there are always plenty of mistakes made. When you look back to the very beginning, after the rocky start with the Articles of Confederation, 4 years later they talked Washington into coming back and coming to Philadelphia and presiding over a convention. He was very reluctant to do that. He thought he had done his part. But after 4 or 5 weeks of nothing but rancor and a lot of yelling, very difficult times within Independence Hall, finally 80-year-old Benjamin Franklin stood up and was recognized by the president of the Constitutional Convention, George Washington.

Franklin had enjoyed life a great deal, but at that point he was overweight, had arthritis, gout. He was in a lot of trouble, but his mind was quite sharp. He was 2 to 3 years away from meeting his Maker. But he pointed out, we've been going for nearly 4 or 5 weeks, and we have more noses than ayes on virtually every vote. Then he says these words.

Now Madison entered notes to what he said, but Franklin wrote out his whole speech, and that is part of our archives. He said in his own words:

How has it happened, Sir, that we have not once thought of humbly applying to the Father of lights to illuminate our understanding?

In the beginning of the contest with Great Britain, when we were sensible of danger, we had daily prayer in this room. Our prayers, Sir, were heard, and they were graciously answered.

And he goes on to point out that all of them should be able to remember specific prayers that they had prayed

that were answered. Then he said these words, his words, his handwriting we have, as he spoke to the convention:

I have lived, Sir, a long time, and the longer I live, the more convincing proofs I see of this truth: that God governs in the affairs of men. And if a sparrow cannot fall to the ground without His notice, is it probable that an empire can rise without His aid? We have been assured, Sir, in the sacred writings, that unless the Lord build the House, they labor in vain that build it.

He urged his colleagues to believe it as he did, and he made a motion that they begin each session with prayer, as they had during the Constitutional Convention. Mr. SHERMAN seconded it. There was a lot of debate. I heard someone call in to Sean Hannity's show a few months ago, and they were saying, Well, gee, prayer meant nothing in the early days. In essence it was his point that that motion was defeated.

□ 1950

If you go back and look at the history, during the Constitutional Convention, they had money and they hired a chaplain. They agreed on the chaplain, and the chaplain led the prayer. During the Constitutional Convention, as was pointed out after Franklin's motion, they didn't have any money to hire a chaplain. They had no money. So they ended up not passing it because they didn't have money to hire a chaplain; and if they didn't hire a chaplain, they didn't see how they could agree on who would do the prayer.

They ultimately went together to hear a sermon on the anniversary of our independence. They prayed together; they worshiped together; and they came back. Ultimately, the result was our Constitution. When the Congress began to meet, they did have money; they did hire a chaplain; and they did start each session with prayer.

It was interesting when, back a few years ago, we were called into session on a Sunday to vote on the President's health care bill. Well, it was the first time I'd been called into session on a Sunday, and I greatly appreciated my friend from Virginia's leadership. We had a discussion: if we're going to be forced to come to Congress, called into session on a Sunday—what many of us call the Lord's day—then it doesn't seem like there should be a problem reviving a tradition that spanned most of the 1800s, and that was to have church right down the hall here—in Statuary Hall as it's called now—but in what was the House of Representatives for most of the 1800s, until around 1858, when they moved into this Chamber, although it did not look like this. During those years, they had church service every Sunday. It was the largest Christian church service—non-denominational—in Washington, D.C.

Now, those who know the Constitution know there is no mention of the words "separation of church and State," "wall of separation." That was in a letter that Thomas Jefferson

wrote to the Danbury Baptists. It had nothing to do with whether or not there should be discrimination against a Christian church as we often see now by the government. It seems that Christians are the only group that is politically expedient to be prejudiced against anymore—too often. The man who used the words “separation of church and State,” Thomas Jefferson, we had verified by the research that the Congressional Research Service did.

When I just glanced at the report they provided, I saw that Madison didn't do this, and I thought, gee, that's weird. I thought Jefferson and Madison as President both went to church in the House of Representatives down the hall, so I looked more intently at the report. It said that Thomas Jefferson did go to church, and, in fact, Jefferson would often bring the Marine Band to play the hymns for the church service down the hall. That's a little different definition of the “separation of church and State” that's often given now. Just down the hall, they had open prayer and they had open worship, and nothing about any of that offended their sense of the First Amendment.

It turns out what the report said was Jefferson would normally ride to church each Sunday that he was President up to Capitol Hill on horse, on horseback. It pointed out that Madison didn't do this. Madison normally came to church every Sunday here in the House of Representatives in a horse-drawn carriage—he didn't ride a horse; he rode in a carriage—but the man who is given the most credit for the most work of our Constitution, James Madison, was not at all offended, and he didn't think the Constitution was offended by having church down the hall.

So I'll always be grateful to my friend from Virginia (Mr. FORBES) for suggesting let's have church, and we came together. They set it up, and it just reminded us of what it must have been like except they wouldn't have had steel and plastic chairs, but we had a worship service. What was particularly great, I thought, was that the prayers, both from Democrats and Republicans, were historic prayers that had been prayed in this Capitol many, many years ago as part of our history. It was a historical service, but there it was in the same place that the voice of Thomas Jefferson and James Madison would have echoed in song and in verse and in prayer. Such a rich history we have.

I'm sure my friend from Virginia has heard people call and write nasty notes, saying, Keep your religion at home. This is when I have read historical prayers, historical proclamations by George Washington, Abraham Lincoln and all in between—Adams, John Quincy Adams—by all of these historical heavyweights in our past. People write, Keep that stuff out of government, not realizing, because of their lack of proper education, that those

were part of our history. They were part of what made this country the greatest country in the world. It was part of what inspired John Quincy Adams, who Abraham Lincoln credited as having such an impact on him for that brief year they overlapped in the House of Representatives, to ultimately come back and become President—to end that blot, that blight, on this country's history called “slavery.”

Of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., whose statue is just down the hall in the Rotunda, the man was an ordained Christian minister. He spent his life, I've heard some say, in order to have all races created equal, and I would go one further as a young Christian white boy: he freed young Christian white boys to treat Christian brothers and sisters like Christian brothers and sisters. He did a great service for all of America.

So I thank my friend from Virginia for hosting this time to talk about the historical importance of prayer. I look forward to this Thursday's prayer breakfast. It's an honor to be the Republican co-chair on the House side, and I look forward to the breakfast on Thursday.

Mr. Speaker, I hope you and all within the sound of the voice of the Members of Congress will be there with us this Thursday morning.

Mr. FORBES. I thank the gentleman for his remarks.

Mr. Speaker, it is with a great deal of humility that we always take the floor in this Chamber. Tonight especially, as I look over your head, I see the inscription of our national motto: “In God We Trust.” Most of the individuals watching from home don't get to see that because the cameras are fixed below it, so they normally don't show it.

You have heard remarks tonight from Republicans and Democrats, and one of the truly great privileges of serving in this body is that we get to serve with some wonderful people. They come from a lot of wonderful States, and each of those States has its own history. We're not only proud of that history, but we learn so much from that history. I come from Virginia. When we look at our history, even before the first colonists ever stepped foot on the shores in Virginia, it was drafted in the charter of Virginia that one of the major purposes of that colony was going to be to propagate faith and to propagate religion.

As they made that arduous journey across an ocean and didn't know if they were going to live or die, they had a ragtag group of people, and they weren't exactly the people that you'd have teaching Sunday school classes. They were tough individuals. When they landed on the shores, their chaplain, Robert Hunt, was able to convince them to come together and do their first organized act, which was to take an old sail and create a makeshift church, to get on their knees and thank God for delivering them over here and to ask for His wisdom and His

blessing. With all of the challenges that they had, Mr. Hunt was able to convince them to come morning and afternoon and have those same prayers. They didn't have to think a lot about what they would pray for; it was just that they could make it to the next day. They did make it to the next day and to the next year.

About 10 years later, they selected the first legislative body in the new world in 1619, and the first act of that body was to go into the church in Jamestown, to get on their knees and to ask for God's blessing and His wisdom and His guidance.

□ 2000

It doesn't surprise us then that 2 years later when they would draft the first charter of the first Constitution of Virginia, that they would have as one of its primary purposes in its dedication for the advancement and service of God and the enlargement of His kingdom. And those years turned into decades and they moved that capital from Jamestown to Williamsburg, and it was a tough several years. They would have great men of faith. Some of them would spend 13 hours a day studying the Bible, praying.

One of those individuals was a guy named Samuel Davies. He would get up oftentimes at his church and preach. One lady liked him so much that she would bring her son and daughters to hear him on a weekly basis. Her young teenage son would sit at his feet and he would learn principles that he would talk about, about God and rights that came from God and not from men. That lady was Sarah Henry, and her son was Patrick Henry.

And when Patrick was 29 years old on his birthday, the first day he was in the Virginia General Assembly, they were debating the Stamp Act. He was supposed to be there and seen and not heard. He was a freshman. He sat there and he listened, and it looked like Virginia was going to do nothing and allow the acts that had taken away so many rights just to slip right between their fingers. And as he listened and listened, he opened up a law book and there was a blank page and he started making notes. And finally he stood up and he started talking about rights that we had.

Another young man that heard Patrick Henry was a guy by the name of Thomas Jefferson. He said that Patrick Henry was the greatest orator he'd ever heard. And Patrick Henry replied, no, the greatest orator, the person he'd learned all of those concepts of freedom from, was that fellow by the name of Samuel Davies.

Years later, Patrick Henry, Thomas Jefferson, Richard Henry Lee, they would find themselves in that same Virginia General Assembly, but the port of Boston was about to be closed, and the King had issued that order. They came together with a makeshift caucus and they asked themselves: What can we best do to help our fellow

colonists in Boston? Of all of the things they thought of, you know what that group came up with? They said the most important thing they could do was ask Virginians all across that Commonwealth to go down and pray for the colonists in Boston.

They spent that night writing a prayer resolution. They didn't know how to do it. They hadn't done it in years. They looked back at old puritan resolutions. They wrote one and went into the General Assembly, and they didn't know how it was going to be received. The next day, the Virginia General Assembly voted it unanimously and didn't change a word. The Governor was so irate, how dare they ask and pray against the King himself, that he stormed in with that proclamation in his hand and he dissolved the Virginia General Assembly.

Well, they were a group of individuals that didn't like the word "no," and so they walked across the street—Thomas Jefferson, Patrick Henry, Peyton Randolph, Richard Henry Lee, and a guy by the name of George Washington and several others, and they wrote a resolution that changed the world, a resolution that said that an attack on one colony was an attack on all of them, and they called for the first ever Congressional Continental Congress.

That Congress, as you know, would meet. And as Mr. GOHMERT pointed out, when they couldn't agree on anything else, the one thing they agreed on was opening with prayer. That Congress led to the Second Congress. In the Second Congress, they appointed a committee—Ben Franklin, John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, Robert Livingston, and Roger Sherman—to write a declaration that would birth this country. And as we are proud of in Virginia, the scrivener of that declaration was Thomas Jefferson. He would later say that he didn't write any new ideas or principles. He wrote concepts that had been heard and preached from pulpits across the Commonwealth and across this Nation, concepts that said this: Our rights didn't come from any act, any king, any committee, but they came from the Creator himself; and if they came from Him, they could never be taken away.

They went on to win that war, to win their freedom, but it didn't last long before it was challenged. And in 1812, in that war, as you know, Francis Scott Key penned that great poem that became our national anthem, the Star-Spangled Banner, and he wrote what is right behind you, and he said: Our motto will ever be "In God We Trust."

As we went into another great war that would split this country, the Civil War, this Congress declared that that motto, "In God We Trust," could be on our coins. Later, the Supreme Court would have it challenged, but in the 1890s would recount the great history of faith in this country. And almost a half century later, when the greatest battle of freedom that ever was fought

on the shores of Normandy was about to take place, Franklin Roosevelt led this entire Nation in prayer asking for blessings upon us.

After that great war and our victory, we came back in this Congress and asked where are we going to put our trust. Are we going to put it in that great atom bomb, in our resources and in our economy? This Congress said, no, our motto would be "In God We Trust," and they adopted that as our motto.

And when I was a young boy, John Kennedy, facing the Cuban missile crisis, came out and said: The guiding principle of this country has always been, is today, and will forever be, in God we trust.

So, Mr. Speaker, with that great history of faith, why is it that faith is under attack so much across this Nation? Well, Mr. Speaker, tune in, because in a few weeks we'll be back on this floor. We'll tell you who's doing it, why they're doing it, and what we need to do to stop it.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I thank you for the time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

CBC HOUR: IMMIGRATION REFORM

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. DAINES). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2013, the gentleman from New York (Mr. JEFFRIES) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. JEFFRIES. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members be given 5 days to revise and extend their remarks on the subject of my Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mr. JEFFRIES. Today we are here as members of the Congressional Black Caucus to weigh in on the important issue that confronts this Nation as it relates to the need for comprehensive immigration reform. It's my honor and my privilege to represent the Eighth Congressional District anchored in Brooklyn and parts of southwest Queens, one of the most diverse districts in the country; a district that has blacks and whites, Asians, Latinos, and immigrants from every corner of the world. I recognize in the capacity of my representation in that district the significance that immigrants have given both to the communities that I represent as well as to the city of New York, the State, and the Nation.

I'm proud that we've been joined by several distinguished members of the Congressional Black Caucus which, for more than four decades, has been known as the conscience of the Congress. And in that capacity, the Congressional Black Caucus has, year after year, spent time trying to perfect our democracy and create a more perfect Union. We confront that moment right

now, here, in this great country of ours as we try and figure out how we deal with creating a pathway towards citizenship for the more than 11 million undocumented immigrants who are forced to toil in the shadows.

We've been joined today by a co-anchor for this next hour, a distinguished classmate of mine from the great State of Nevada, the gentleman STEVEN HORSFORD, who had the opportunity, I believe, last week to be present while President Barack Obama delivered his remarks as they relate to immigration reform. And so I'd like to ask Mr. HORSFORD if he might comment on the President's remarks and weigh in on the immigration debate from his perspective as a representative from the important State of Nevada.

Mr. HORSFORD. Mr. Speaker, first I'd like to thank my classmate and colleague and say I look forward to serving with him in this historic 113th Congress as we work together to make this a more perfect Union.

I also represent one of the more diverse districts in the United States Congress. My district is 25 percent Latino, 16 percent African American, 7 percent Asian American, 2 percent Native American. It is a district that reflects both the urban as well as the rural components and communities of our great State of Nevada.

□ 2010

In fact, Congressional District 4 reflects the State of Nevada, and Nevada increasingly reflects all of America. And so I believe that is why President Obama decided, of all places that he could visit, he visited Nevada last week to discuss the fierce urgency of now in adopting a comprehensive immigration reform by this Congress; the fact that Nevada reflects the changing demographics of our country, but it also reflects the broken system which is our immigration system.

And so, as I listened to the President, and as we honor today the 100th birthday of Rosa Parks, I reflect on these issues as a basic fundamental civil right, a human right that is guaranteed to us. So today does mark the 100th birthday of Rosa Parks, an icon in the struggle for justice, a woman who was known as the mother of the civil rights movement.

As an African American woman confronting prejudice and unequal treatment under the law, Mrs. Parks remarked that what pushed her to say "no" on that fateful day in Montgomery was the simple fact that her "mistreatment was just not right," and she was "tired of it."

She said, and I quote:

I did not want to be mistreated; I did not want to be deprived of a seat that I had paid for. It was just time . . . There was opportunity for me to take a stand to express the way that I felt about being treated in that manner. I had not planned to get arrested. I had plenty to do without having to end up in jail. But when I had to face that decision, I didn't hesitate to do so because I felt that we had endured that too long. The more we gave

in, the more we complied with that kind of treatment, the more oppressive it became.

It was not complicated. It was prejudice. It was unfair, and she was sick of it. She was tired of the constant drumbeat of injustice directing every minute of her day. She was tired of facing inequality in a country founded on principles of liberty and justice for all. Her act of civil disobedience sparked a social movement that changed our country forever, and she did it because "it was just time."

So today, we honor her courage and her bravery. We remember her legacy and draw lessons from her actions. We take up the cause of promoting more just, fair and humane policy for all, because that's what we owe Mrs. Parks and all our civil rights leaders.

It is our tribute to those larger-than-life pioneers. As Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. said, "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere." It is that creed of the civil rights movement that still motivates us today.

So today we take up the cause of joining arms with our immigrant brothers and sisters in that spirit. The time is now to lend a hand to those who confront injustice as a result of a broken immigration system. It is just time.

For many undocumented immigrants in our country, they are waiting to start their lives. They are waiting to start a business. They are waiting to reunite with their families, often for years on end.

And while they wait, children see their parents deported. Students get stuck in an educational purgatory and can't attend college and better their lives or get a job in the country that trained them. And mothers and fathers can't provide for their family or care for their loved ones without keeping them in the shadows.

So they can't wait any longer. We can't wait any longer. And as Rosa Parks said, It is just time.

From Africa to Europe to Asia, our dysfunctional immigration system is a disincentive to the best and the brightest worldwide from coming to our great country. We throw talent away. We tear families apart. We show disregard for those trying to live the American Dream.

For far too long, we have put off comprehensive immigration reform, but now we are taking up the opportunity to do something about it. And we cannot let this moment pass. It is in that spirit that we hold today's discussion.

We will not wait any longer. We have to continue strengthening our border, but we will act on comprehensive immigration reform without delay. We will crack down on employers, but we will make sure that there is a pathway to citizenship for those who are here at no fault of their own. And we will fulfill our heritage as a Nation of immigrants and a Nation of laws.

Justice, compassion, and equal protection are our common cause. We have

an opportunity to embrace dynamism that immigrants bring to our country, and now is the time to do it.

As I said, this is a civil rights issue. In fact, it is the civil rights and human rights issue of our generation. Just like the civil rights issues of the sixties that were fought by African Americans, and the women's rights issues before that, this is a civil rights issue that must be advocated by all who believe in a sense of justice, opportunity and equality for every person.

And as we work together, we can move forward on immigration reform for the good of our country and for the good of all of us as human beings.

Mr. JEFFRIES. I thank the gentleman from Nevada.

We've been joined by the distinguished chair of the Congressional Black Caucus, the gentlelady from Cleveland, Ohio, Representative MARCIA FUDGE. I yield her such time as she may consume.

Ms. FUDGE. I thank you so very much. It is indeed a pleasure for me to be with these young gentlemen here today. I want to thank the gentleman from New York, and I look forward to his leadership as he anchors this hour for the 113th Congress, and I'm certain that other members of his class will be joining him on a regular basis.

Mr. Speaker, with that I thank him again. This is a lot of work, which you know, to come down to this floor every week and talk about issues of importance to our Nation. So I thank you.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to lend my voice to those of my colleagues on the importance of comprehensive immigration reform.

The United States is a Nation of immigrants. Most Americans trace their lineage beyond our borders. The promise of the American Dream is what brings people from all corners of the world to this Nation. This country was founded on the principle that here lies the land of opportunity, and that anyone can achieve success through hard work.

But for the millions of undocumented immigrants of Hispanic, Asian, and African descent living in America today, the American Dream is just a promise, a promise they hope their children may one day realize.

Many immigrants are confronted with the same harsh realities that plague communities of color every day, namely, racial profiling based on unreasonable suspicion, systematic criminalization in order to fill private prisons, economic injustice that holds many in the bondage of poverty—all examples of pitfalls that unfairly, yet intentionally, trap, uproot and destroy far too many individuals and families.

Children in immigrant families also continue to struggle. According to the Pew Research Center, there are an estimated 1 million unauthorized immigrants under the age of 18 in the United States, and as many as 4.5 million U.S.-born children whose parents are unauthorized. These children live in fear.

Every year, nearly 200,000 non-citizens, many with children who are U.S. citizens, are deported and torn away from their families.

□ 2020

As families are torn apart, children are forced to choose between separation from their parent or leaving the only place they've ever called home.

How does America end the culture of fear among immigrant communities and help preserve families? First, we must create a pathway to citizenship that encourages, not discourages, legalization. Second, we must address the issues of mass detention and unjust criminality of immigrant populations. Third, our laws and justice system must place a premium on keeping families together. By creating flexible and equitable immigration policies that prioritize the unification and stability of immigrant families, we strengthen the fabric that holds our communities together.

Lastly, as a former mayor, I would be remiss if I did not mention the important role our States and local governments will play in immigration reform. As undocumented immigrants come out of the shadows of society, our State and our local governments will need our support more than ever. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., once said:

History will have to record that the greatest tragedy of this period of social transition was not the strident clamor of the bad people, but the appalling silence of the good people.

Today, we are in a period of social transition. As the "conscience of the United States Congress," the CBC cannot and will not stand by in silence. When history is recounted, the record will reflect the stance that the CBC took in supporting comprehensive immigration reform—reform that not only includes individuals of Hispanic and Asian descent, but also thousands of immigrants from within the African diaspora, and reform that dignifies the struggles of the undocumented and reconnects broken family bonds.

I urge my colleagues to unite behind comprehensive immigration reform.

Mr. JEFFRIES. I thank the gentlelady from Ohio, the distinguished CBC chair, for her remarks and her observations.

I think there were several important points that were raised by our chair, Congresswoman FUDGE. First, sometimes the immigration reform debate has been characterized as perhaps just a Latino issue. At other times it's been characterized as perhaps an Asian issue. There are times that the immigration reform debate is characterized as an Eastern European issue. But really, immigration reform is an American issue. It cuts to the heart of who we are and what we will become. It affects every community. And as Congresswoman FUDGE indicated, there are black immigrants in the United States to whom the issue of creating a pathway towards citizenship is extremely important.

It's estimated that there are 3 million black immigrants in this country. Approximately 400,000 are undocumented. Who are these immigrants of African descent? Some are from the Caribbean, two-thirds of which are from nation states such as Jamaica, Trinidad, and Haiti. Others are from the continent of Africa. They are from countries like Nigeria and Ghana, Sudan, Ethiopia, and Eritrea.

I'm pleased that we've been joined by the distinguished gentlelady from the Ninth Congressional District in New York, who represents one of the largest immigrant populations for a congressional district not just in the city of New York, but anywhere in this Nation. She's been a dynamic leader on this issue.

Ms. CLARKE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to add my voice to the CBC and amplify the message of support for true and real comprehensive immigration reform. First, I would like to thank our newly elected colleagues, the gentleman from Brooklyn, New York, Congressman HAKEEM JEFFRIES, and the gentleman from Las Vegas, Nevada, Mr. STEVEN HORSFORD, for hosting this evening's CBC hour.

Mr. Speaker, I commend President Obama for his commitment to comprehensive immigration reform, and I reaffirm my commitment to working with his administration and our colleagues to make true reform a reality. Having said that, I want to challenge the President and all of our colleagues to expand upon the face and the voice of immigration, adding new dimensions to the unfolding debate.

When two major immigration speeches such as those that President Obama made in El Paso, Texas, in 2011, and last week in Las Vegas, Nevada, in Mr. HORSFORD's part of the country, omit the contributions of immigrants from the continent of Africa, it paints an incomplete picture of the idealized gorgeous mosaic or melting pot, if you will, that the United States of America represents. We must embrace the diversity of those who are impacted by reform and understand that this debate cannot solely rest on the shoulders of our Latino sisters and brothers.

The stigmatization of the Latino population as the target immigrant population has resulted in a skewed depiction of the true diversity of the immigrant population resident in our country. We have immigrants represented from almost every Nation around the world, and we must recognize all of those who are building communities and strengthening our Nation.

Since 2009, I've been working with my colleagues to diversify the voice and the face of the immigration debate. The burden of a broken system does not encumber one group of immigrants alone. There are approximately 3 million immigrants from the African diaspora in the United States, the vast majority of whom entered the country with legal documentation. The impact

of immigrants of the African diaspora from the continent of Africa, the Caribbean region, and South and Central America has been massive in scale. As the representative of the Ninth Congressional District of New York, I am proud to serve a very significant Caribbean, South and Central American, and continental African immigrant community whose immigration experience is as diverse as the countries from which they've come. In fact, I represent one of the most diverse, immigrant-rich districts in the Nation, with people who have come from the Middle East, South Asia, Asia, Russia, the Eastern European nations. It's a virtual United Nations.

Many entered our shores with student visas, like my parents did, to pursue careers in medicine, science, education, and other professions. Many are proud business owners of law firms, restaurants, grocery stores, shipping companies, and hair braiding venues. There are those who come as asylum seekers, fleeing the tumult of war, famine, and genocide. No matter their reason for immigrating, they've come to the U.S. to be productive, taxpaying members of our civil society and to attain the American Dream.

Unfortunately, immigrants of the African diaspora, like so many other groups from around the world, are dealing with backlogged immigration processing; families being ripped apart; falling "out of status" because they have aged out of the legal immigration process; racial and status discrimination; unfair criminal aggravated felony laws that prohibit judicial review; deportation processes that violate civil and human rights; an insecure and prohibitive student visa program; limited access to work permits; and much, much more.

You see, many immigrants arrive on our shores during a time in their lives when they are the most productive. Any delay in processing these individuals, in bringing them to the fore, denies us the opportunity to access their talents, their skills, and their ability in the prime of their lives.

□ 2030

Additionally, African Americans, those descendants of the slave trade—whom I fondly call long-time stakeholders of this Nation—have been affected by the broken system as well. Working-class Americans of all backgrounds, races, and ethnicities are adversely affected with a broken immigration system. They are facing depressed wages due to unscrupulous and illegal corporate hiring practices. Urban communities aren't being adequately counted by the Census and other surveys, resulting in the reduction of adequate government services and Federal resources to meet the needs of the actual population in the communities and increasing the strain on current public services.

Urban communities are exposed to more crime, as the undocumented are

more reluctant to report crimes; and African Americans are dealing with increased racial and status discrimination, as many are subjected to interrogations based on citizenship.

This is why, as a child of the Caribbean—second-generation American—and a sister of the African diaspora, I believe that it is my duty and that of the Congressional Black Caucus to ensure that the voices of immigrants of the African diaspora will be at the forefront, shoulder to shoulder with the Congressional Hispanic Caucus and the Caucus of the Asian and Pacific Islanders; that the voices of the immigrants of the African diaspora will be heard. We will make sure that this debate is as diverse as the population it encompasses.

The effectiveness of the immigration reform debate will rely heavily on the diversity of its support. That is why I call upon my sisters and brothers within the African diaspora to join with the members of the CBC, myself and our colleagues, in making sure that our voices are heard and our needs are adequately addressed.

Mr. Speaker, the time is now to pass a comprehensive bill that includes streamlining the immigration process, humane enforcement strategies that address the needs of children and other vulnerable people, use alternatives to detention, create enforceable detention standards, safeguard our investments in our DREAM Act kids, and outline essential due process reforms.

Our national security is at stake. Our moral standing in the world depends upon it. And the American people—many of whom are first- and second-generation immigrants—have demanded it. If we turn our backs on those law-abiding contributors to our civil society that come to our shores only to embrace the American Dream, to labor in rebuilding our great Nation, to strengthen our economy, to serve honorably in our military, we turn our back on ourselves and our future. You don't have to believe me. Just ask the people of Japan, where population growth has been stagnant as a result of a prohibitive immigration policy.

It is time for people of good will to stand for those who fear or are unable to stand for themselves. Let us stand together for comprehensive immigration reform.

Mr. JEFFRIES. Thank you, Congresswoman CLARKE, for those very eloquent and thoughtful remarks.

The Congressional Black Caucus consists of 42 members representing a variety of communities all across this great Nation. We've been joined today by two Representatives from the Lone Star State, one of whom, Representative SHEILA JACKSON LEE, has distinguished herself in many different areas, but has been a thought leader in the area of comprehensive immigration reform.

She is currently the ranking member on the House Committee on Homeland Security Subcommittee on the Border

and Maritime Security, and also is a senior member of the House Committee on the Judiciary and the important Subcommittee on Immigration and Border Security. We're thankful that she's been a long-time champion of a fair and humane immigration system, and I yield the floor to Congresswoman SHEILA JACKSON LEE.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. I'd like to thank the distinguished gentleman from New York and the distinguished gentleman from Nevada. I particularly want to thank them for hosting this vital discussion, this Special Order, and pay tribute to them for doing a service to the Nation.

When we speak on the floor of the House and we come from disparate States, from New York, Nevada, Texas, and Ohio—in fact, I think we have just about covered America—it has an amazing impact on our colleagues, and certainly constituents. So I owe and we all owe you a debt of gratitude for the forward thinking, and particularly since today has a double meaning. This is the 100th birthday of Rosa Parks. She is often called the Mother of Civil Rights. And then our President, over the last couple of weeks, and as the gentleman from Nevada knows, spent time with him, to speak eloquently about the need for this pathway of access to legalization going forward.

So I am grateful again for your willingness to host this and to begin to surge forward, collaborate with members of the Congressional Black Caucus, and giving them information in their respective districts, and collaborating with the Asian Pacific Caucus, the Caribbean Caucus, and as well the Hispanic Caucus. I think there are three of us, but we now have a new Caribbean, on which a number of us serve, and as well the African diaspora, which includes our brothers and sisters that have been mentioned already on the floor. We can go vastly beyond them. It's my effort today, and I thank both the gentlemen from New York and from Nevada for some potent posters that I hope that I will share with all of you.

Let me share both words from President Obama and some abbreviated words from Dr. Martin Luther King. But the words from President Obama stated, as it relates to the question of immigration reform, that our journey is not complete until we find a better way to welcome the striving, hopeful immigrants who still see America as the land of opportunity, until bright young students and engineers are enlisted in our workforce rather than expelled from our country.

I think the important part of this discussion tonight is to make sure that the landscape of immigration reform is a landscape of many faces, many heritages, many backgrounds, many regions in the United States, many continents, and that it is important for all of us to have a commitment to better opportunity for all. But as we do that, I think education is crucial. For as this

discussion goes forward, I want my friends to know that there will be moments of great contention, there will be moments of disagreement, and there will be moments of misrepresentation.

It is important for the broad diaspora to understand that we are in this leaking boat together, and that when we utilize the term of "civil rights" or we use Rosa Parks or we speak to the words that Dr. King said on April 3, 1968, that said that he could see a Promised Land and that he might not get there with us, but he knew that we as a people would get there some day, I cannot imagine in the 50th year of his "I Have a Dream" speech that he could not foresee that America's diversity would be its strength, and that African Americans who came first to this country as slaves could then join with others who came in fishing boats, in airplanes, that walked across the border for greater opportunity and make America the dream, the great Nation, the Promised Land of which he predicted.

That is what immigration reform is. It is not to take from someone else and to give to someone else. It is not to diminish the civil rights struggle of the African American population. It is not to ignore the history of others, but it is to say that we have a common ground. That is the way that we're going to pass immigration reform.

□ 2040

If you are a Southerner and a Republican from the South, you have as much invested in an America that gives opportunity to all as you may be from the wonderful districts that are represented on this floor. And until we understand that in the House, and until the Speaker understands and accepts it, that this is not taking away, this is not undermining anyone's view of America, it is to say that the view of America is a promised land that so many come for. It is a recognition that Americans have come through the 1800s when the Irish came because of the famine, the Italians came in the early 1900s. Other groups have come since then, large numbers of Hispanics, Asian Americans, South Asian Americans, those who have come from the Asian Pacific area, those who have come from Pakistan, India and Bangladesh, those who have come from the Caribbean, those who come from Africa. They have all come, and we have to recognize that.

One of the issues that seems to be coming up over and over again as we look at this issue, and I will speak specifically to the Senate's proposal, the general path to citizenship, it talks about the 11 million undocumented individuals, that the path of citizenship will only take place if the border is secured and visa overstays are effectively combated.

Let me be clear that great progress has been made over the Clinton administration, moving into the Bush administration, George Bush, and then on to

the Obama administration, particularly in the Obama administration because you can begin to see any suggestion that we have not worked to secure the border is based upon lack of information and lack of facts. So I want to thank my colleague for a poster that, in fact, says that the number of Border Patrol agents has more than doubled in the past 10 years.

When I first began writing legislation in 2004, 2003, 2005, we were shortchanged on border security agents. Working with the Senate and working with Presidents, we funded the increase of border security or Border Patrol agents, and we can see now that the majority of agents are assigned to the U.S.-Mexican border, more than 16,000, and more—and it's growing—that are basically at the border now. I think we can do more, if you will, for the northern border; and I look forward to working with my chairperson of the subcommittee on that issue.

But we cannot let the discussion get bogged down in talking about we can't provide some access to citizenship. In my legislation, I called it "earned access to citizenship," which means there were fines to be paid, charitable issues to be paid, you must be vetted; but here on the Senate proposal, it talks about securing the border.

I want to be able to be responsive to their concerns, but they should also look at the facts, and they can see that between ICE and CBP, ICE is the internal enforcement, CBP, you can see the increase in the amounts of money that have gone up in the billions of dollars, now close to \$18 billion between ICE and CBP, CBP being a little bit under \$12 billion, that we have truly under the Obama administration been serious about border security. In fact, there is a poster board here that suggests that the deportations have gone up. That's not the right way to proceed.

So my point today is that there must be common ground. In the Senate, they talk about young, undocumented immigrants who were brought to the U.S. when they were children will have a more direct path to citizenship. That must be clear because those are the DREAM Act kids. And, in fact, those individuals are the talent that we are throwing away, young people who are in college who are contributing to society who can help bring their families, reunite their families, have been forced to deportation.

I want to congratulate the President for his executive order that provided a deferred adjudication for DREAM Act youngsters as a basis of saying that the ICE should enforce deportation on those who are a threat to our community and prioritize those distinctive from those who are here who are not doing us any harm who are being educated. So the Senate proposal talks about young people. It talks about the backlogs of legal immigration and family reunification and the employment visa process.

It also allows more immigrants performing lower-skilled occupations to

enter the country when we were created. I want to change that word. I don't like the idea of lower skilled. People come to work, if they are skilled, they have something to contribute, that is the basis upon which we should look at it. But I think for the Congressional Black Caucus it is always important to say because our communities suffer unemployment in many parts of the country more so than others, that it is important in any immigration reform that we ensure that the employer has looked very hard for a person who is eligible for that job here in the United States.

That's how we educate our population. That's how we bring together the right kind of collaboration. High-skilled immigrants should be all of us. High-skilled individuals should be those in historically black colleges, Hispanic-serving colleges. We should encourage them to be part of science, technology, engineering and math. However, when there is an immigrant that is graduating from our top universities, or any of our universities, we should not ask them to leave. It is very important to do. And we should ensure that they have opportunities.

The President's general path to citizenship provides a pathway to citizenship. These immigrants can register for provisional legal status. And his point is, which I believe we should join in, that we should not let border security get in the way of making sure that we move forward on a legal status process. Young people who, again, were brought here as children should have an expedited path to citizenship by attending college or by serving 2 years in the military. Slight differences that we can find a common ground, legal immigrants, he speaks to the plan would increase the percentage of family-sponsored immigrants coming into the country over every 7 years, from 7 to 15 percent.

This goes to a complaint that you will hear from those in Nevada, those in New York, those in your very diverse districts, they complain about—not complain—let me say it differently. They want to be reunited with their family members. And one of the starkest things that happens to any of us who visit with immigrants in our congressional office, what about the immigrant who wants to go home for a dying relative, or the relative wants to come because there is a dying relative here in the United States.

I had that happen in my district. I had a South Korean student who was shot on the streets of Houston, and tragically he became paralyzed. When his father came here to be able to comfort him, his father had been here, he went back out, he was held and detained. We finally got that resolved. But we must find a way to have this punishment, this pain, that so many of our immigrants are experiencing, we must find a way to be able to work on this in a productive and smart manner. This speaks to the fact that we have

not been slouches, we have not been slouches as it relates to border security.

I want to speak to the issue of the diversity visa program, which was a target of our friends who maybe did not understand what that means. But the diversity visa program was to allow people who did not get in the normal visa system. It has proven to be a way of helping those who come from the continent of Africa, those who come from a number of other areas where it is very difficult to get a visa. Nearly 15 million people representing about 20 million with family members included were registered late last year for the 2012 diversity visa program under which only 15,000 visa winners were to be selected.

That shows the intensity of the diversity visa. And some want to get rid of it. It's a lot of African immigrants; it's a lot of people trying to come to be with their families. Diversity visa immigrants succeed and contribute to the U.S. economy. According to the Congressional Research Service, in FY 2009, diversity visa immigrants were 2.5 times more likely to report managerial and professional occupations.

The founder of it, Representative Bruce Morrison, said that the heart of the definition of America is what this program is about. All nationalities are welcome. Ambassador Johnny Young said the program engenders hope abroad for those who are too often without it, hope for a better life. And so I hope as we look at immigration reform we will not attempt to eliminate opportunities to bring families together.

Finally, with respect to security issues, there's no significant evidence of a security risk with the diversity visa. The GAO found in 2007 no documented evidence.

These points about the issue of where we can come together and where there are distinctions is to raise the specter of how serious and difficult this process may be. The Congressional Black Caucus will be pivotal in its role, one, because it is the conscience of this Congress; two, because we have the uncanny ability of seeing from a broader perspective what we have gone through in our lifetime, what our communities go through. We've seen discrimination, and we are sympathetic and sensitive to how we can help others.

So I think the challenge is as we proceed on this process that all of us be included in this discussion, that the working group includes members of the Congressional Black Caucus and that as we encourage legislation to come to the Judiciary Committee, which is the committee that I sit on, the Immigration Subcommittee that ZOE LOFGREN chairs and which I'm second on that committee, and as it goes through Homeland Security where the ranking member, Mr. THOMPSON, and Mr. MCCAUL share the leadership, in Judiciary Mr. CONYERS and Mr. GOODLATTE, where I am the ranking member on the

Border Security Subcommittee, that we, through the Congressional Black Caucus, find a way to uphold the values of our ancestors, uphold the values of the pioneers and leaders who have traveled through the journey of civil rights that we can see the plight and the pain of those who come now.

□ 2050

I want to say in closing that as a Member of the Congress having the privilege of serving the 18th Congressional District, even in a city like Houston, it is enormously diverse, having a large number of counselor offices, and people who have come from all walks of life, who have come through outdoors in the 18th Congressional District begging for help, pleading for their children not being deported, and I would say to my colleagues you can not, and those of you who come from this diverse background, fully understand what it's like to hear a mother's shrill scream in your office when you said to them that we are going to stop the deportation of your child. We've all understood that pain if we've encountered immigrants who do nothing more and want nothing more than to live the American Dream, who are paying taxes, building houses, and working for the betterment of us all, serving in the military and shedding blood.

For this reason I think it is crucial that we try to overcome the hurdles, the differences of opinion, the tension that will rise, and have a common place to start from and a common ending. And that is the betterment of all people who contribute and make America great.

Comprehensive immigration reform will not hurt those of us who stand on this floor, and we will not allow it to hurt those who we represent. It will be a focus roadmap for all of us to work for a great and wonderful promised land that Martin King dreamed about and spoke about a few years ago.

Mr. JEFFRIES. I thank the gentle lady from Texas for her very pointed observations on a variety of different issues concerning the comprehensive immigration reform issue.

I would just like to amplify for a moment one point that was made as it relates to the significance of the diversity visa lottery program. It's a program that in its conception is designed to make sure that immigrants from underrepresented parts of the world have an opportunity to come to America and participate in the American Dream. And in the context of this diversity visa lottery program, approximately 20 percent of the African immigrants who are here in this country are here as a result of participating in that program.

It has been an instrumental vehicle for ensuring diversity as it relates to the presence of immigrants from the African continent, who by the way, statistics have shown, tend to be more educated in their attainment of college degrees than any other immigrant

group. As a result, they are very much contributing to moving the society forward. And for that reason I believe it will be important for the CBC to continue to stand up for this program as we move forward with comprehensive immigration reform, and so I thank the gentlelady for those observations.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Will the gentleman yield for just one quick moment. I want to applaud him for that and just add two groups that we did not mention yet that will really be impacted by comprehensive immigration reform: Liberians who came here on deferred enforcement, who are now still in limbo and worked with us over the years. We've been, if you would say, advocates for them. And Haitians, who have a distinctive pathway into citizenship, who have certainly been contributing, fought with us in the Revolutionary War.

And you are absolutely right, the diversity visa has been a lifeline, not for terrorists, but a lifeline for hard-working immigrants. And I hope that when we debate this, as I said, mountains of tension or disagreement, that we can find common ground to include all these groups that will help better America and grow America strong.

Mr. JEFFRIES. One of the things that we hope to accomplish today as we move forward in the context of advancing this immigration reform debate is making sure that the facts surrounding the issue of immigration are well known. This is a Nation of immigrants, and it's a Nation of laws. And some have articulated the concern that we must secure the border before we can move forward and create a pathway toward citizenship for those who are in the country and undocumented.

Much has been made about the southwestern border in particular. And the gentleman from Nevada, I believe, has some statistics that he can speak to as to the progress that has been made in securing the border, points that were also made by the gentlelady from Texas.

Mr. HORSFORD. Mr. Speaker, again, I would like to thank the gentleman from New York for yielding and to expound on some of the points that the gentlelady from Texas made in regards to the tremendous progress that has been made on strengthening the border.

She touched on the doubling of the number of Border Patrol agents from 10,000 to 21,000 agents in just the past year. That's a doubling since 2004 of resources. And this is tremendous in that it actually is the largest per year enforcement of any other federal law enforcement combined. It's \$17.6 billion worth of enforcement on our border. And so progress has been made. And the deportations signify that. Half of these deportations have been to individuals who committed crimes, illegal crimes, and were deported for that reason.

But let me also touch on another element, which the gentlelady also dis-

cussed. And that is immigration, and the history of immigration policy in our country has always focused on the family and keeping the family together and reuniting family members. And so we have to be careful when we talk about deportation, what that means for individuals, because this is a human rights issue.

In my district, in Congressional District 4, I met with a group of citizens on Sunday before the President came, and there was one family there who explained to me a situation where the mother had been deported and the children now are in foster care. They cannot be reunited with their family because of the status issues. And that is something that is having a human toll because we have a broken immigration system that must be fixed. That has always been a cornerstone of our immigration policy in this country, the focus on keeping our families together, not just on labor or economic issues, which should be at the forefront as well.

And so enforcement has been a big cornerstone, and should be a major cornerstone, of the policy going forward. But the pathway to citizenship is the cornerstone. And I believe the Congressional Black Caucus as a stakeholder in this discussion, working with our colleagues on the other side and in the other Chamber, must articulate why there cannot be a precondition, a litmus test on border security, in order to provide for a pathway to citizenship that so many individuals depend on.

Let me also discuss one other element of a comprehensive immigration reform that is necessary, and it's important to my district, in Congressional District 4, and that's the focus on enhancing travel and tourism.

The administration under President Obama is committed to increasing U.S. travel and tourism by facilitating legitimate travel while maintaining our Nation's security. Consistent with the President's executive order on travel and tourism, the President's proposal securely streamlines visa and foreign visitor processing. It also strengthens law enforcement cooperation while maintaining the program's robust counterterrorism and criminal information-sharing initiatives. It facilitates more efficient travel by allowing greater flexibility to designate countries for participation in the visa waiver program, which allows citizens of designated countries to visit the United States without obtaining a visa.

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Finally, it permits the State Department to waive interview requirements for certain very low-risk visa applicants, permitting resources to be focused on higher risk applicants, and it creates a pilot for premium visa processing.

So these are all of the components that have to be part of the comprehensive immigration reform. These are the tenets which the Congressional Black

Caucus, in working with the Congressional Hispanic Caucus and the Congressional Asian Pacific Caucus, believes to be the cornerstones and the principles by which any comprehensive immigration bill should be passed.

Mr. JEFFRIES. Thank you, Congressman HORSFORD.

We have been joined by our distinguished classmate, the gentleman from Texas, Congressman MARC VEASEY, who represents an extremely diverse district in the Dallas area and who has been a tremendous thought leader on this issue, and it is my honor to recognize him.

Mr. VEASEY. I want to thank my colleague HAKEEM JEFFRIES, who is from the great State of New York, and Mr. HORSFORD for their leadership on this issue. They, too, understand how important it is that we speak out on this issue. It is not only important to our constituents and our States but to the entire country.

Mr. Speaker, I thank you for the opportunity to address the Chamber on the very important topic of comprehensive immigration reform. I would also like to express my gratitude to the Congressional Black Caucus for not only their leadership on this issue but also for allowing me, as a member of the caucus, to continue this meaningful and urgent discussion. As Members of Congress, it is our duty to be the voices of our constituents by creating and passing legislation that addresses their concerns.

For much too long, 11 million voices have waited for Congress to work together on comprehensive immigration reform. They're in neighborhoods like the ones I represent in Dallas and Fort Worth and Oak Cliff, which is in Dallas on the north side of Fort Worth. This is an issue that is very important, not only to those neighborhoods, but to the neighborhoods in the entirety of the district that I represent. The consensus on this issue has never been stronger, and I am proud to see Members on both sides of the aisle working together and finding a practical solution to this problem while President Obama leads the way.

I applaud the comprehensive immigration reform efforts, including the proposals put forth by the President and bipartisan groups of Senators, which call for protecting our borders while respecting the unity and sanctity of our families. Our undocumented immigrant community includes DREAMer schoolchildren, who are excelling in math and science, wanting to attend college in the only country they've ever known. It also includes hard-working men and women who are only trying to make an honest living and provide for their families.

Comprehensive immigration reform is about accountability and responsible public policy. It is not feasible, economical, or moral to propose the deportation of 11 million people who are living and working hard in our country. What reform calls for is responsible

public policy that provides certainty to employers that the people wanting to work are legally eligible to do so, thereby bringing a significant population of our country out of the shadows.

Mr. Speaker, our borders are more secure than ever before. Border security is a serious issue, and we must continue to enforce our laws, but we can also enact a fair immigration system by working together. Providing appropriate protections to undocumented workers, including fair wages and safe working conditions, is the right thing to do to ensure the development of our economy and our Nation's security.

As the Congressman from the Dallas-Fort Worth metropolis, I understand the necessity of bipartisanship on this issue. My first days in office have been devoted to relationships and coalition-building on both sides of the aisle. I look forward to continuing those efforts, and I will not stop until we achieve a fair and comprehensive immigration reform plan. I will work closely with my friends in the Congressional Hispanic Caucus and in the Congressional Black Caucus and with all of my colleagues who would like to join this effort. The voices of those in my district and across the country are being heard. It's time to make comprehensive immigration reform a reality.

Mr. JEFFRIES. I thank the gentleman from Texas.

As he indicated, the time is now for us to move forward—to find common ground and to figure out how we can advance this issue in a manner that respects the security concerns that have been articulated but which also recognizes that, 6 years ago, several benchmarks were set forth for security measures to be reached in order for comprehensive immigration reform and a pathway towards citizenship to be created.

Six years ago, there was a call for at least 20,000 border protection agents. Right now, there are 21,400 border protection agents. Six years ago, there was a call for a fence to be constructed along the southern border of approximately 670 miles, although our border security folks have said they believe a fence would be adequate that is 652 miles, 651 miles of which have already been constructed. There was a call for video surveillance assets—these are cameras and radar—deployed along the borders of this country. Six years ago, the call was for 105 such video surveillance assets. Mr. Speaker, right now, there are more than 250 deployed in the United States of America. We have met or exceeded the security benchmarks that have been set. That's why it is time for us to move forward with comprehensive immigration reform.

We have also been joined by another distinguished colleague of ours, the gentleman from Newark, New Jersey (Mr. PAYNE), and I recognize him at this time.

Mr. PAYNE. Let me first say “thank you” to the gentleman from New York,

the gentleman from across the river with whom we are looking forward to having a great working relationship, as well as with the gentleman from Nevada, who has also distinguished himself very early in this Congress.

As we debate this issue, we must not forget that we are a Nation of immigrants, and it is our rich history of immigration that has strengthened this country generation after generation. Yes, we must secure our borders, but we must also recognize that there have been a record number of deportations and seizures over the last 4 years. This issue of border security cannot be used as a fear tactic to prevent progress. In my district, people migrate from all over the globe, not just from Latin America, but from the Caribbean and Africa and Asia as well, and they are all in search of the same thing—the American Dream.

Children who were brought here through no fault of their own and who think of themselves as Americans wait in limbo, so we have a moral obligation to fix our broken system. It is not only the right thing to do, but it is the practical thing to do. Over 11 million undocumented workers live in our communities. They go to our schools, and they work among us every day. It is time for Congress to provide these 11 million people their chance to come out of the shadows without the specter of deportation hanging over their heads.

It's also time to streamline the legal immigration process and to make it more efficient for high-skilled workers and those working in science fields to be able to stay and keep their talents here.

In my district—the 10th district of New Jersey, and in every corner of America, immigrants are receiving degrees in science, technology, engineering, and math. They are the business leaders and innovators of the future. But when they graduate, they are sent home.

If we want to remain the pre-eminent country in the world—if we want to continue to attract the best talent—if we want to continue to out-innovate the rest of the world—if we want to continue to be a just nation. Then we must act now.

Mr. JEFFRIES. I thank the gentleman from New Jersey for his comments. I also want to thank the distinguished members of the CBC, including my colleague from Nevada, Congressman HORSFORD, for his leadership, for his eloquence, and for the facts that he has brought to bear.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of common-sense immigration reforms that will foster economic growth, keep our families and our communities together, and protect workers' rights. America's immigration system is broken, and we must forge a bipartisan agreement to fix it.

As a member of the Congressional Black Caucus, I will ensure that the needs of all communities are addressed in immigration reform. Many undocumented immigrants were brought here as children and know the United States as their only home. I support the

DREAM Act to allow these bright young people to build their futures here and contribute to our nation's prosperity. Strong families are the cornerstone of our Nation, and I believe provisions to guarantee family unity must be included in any serious immigration reform bill. I am dedicated to keeping families together by supporting a pathway to citizenship for undocumented immigrants.

At the same time, Congress must ensure that immigration reform positively impacts economic and employment opportunities for all Americans. I will prioritize improving access to adult education programs and increasing job training opportunities so that all Americans can pursue their dreams and provide for their families.

It is time to come together to enact fair and reasonable immigration reforms that advance our national interests and honor our history as a country of immigrants. I will work hard in Congress to ensure that these reforms strengthen our communities and drive our economy forward.

CORRECTION TO THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD OF FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2013 AT PAGE H309

(e) OTHER COMMITTEE PUBLICATIONS.—

(1) *House Reports.*

(i) Any document published by the Committee as a House Report, other than a report of the Committee on a measure which has been approved by the Committee, shall be approved by the Committee at a meeting, and Members shall have the same opportunity to submit views as provided for in Rule IV(b).

(ii) Not later than January 2nd of each year, the Committee shall submit to the House an annual report on the activities of the Committee.

(iii) After an adjournment sine die of a regular session of a Congress or after December 15th, whichever occurs first, the Chairman may file the annual Activity Report for that Congress with the Clerk of the House at any time and without the approval of the Committee, provided that a copy of the report has been available to each Member of the Committee for at least seven calendar days and that the report includes any supplemental, minority, or additional views submitted by a Member of the Committee. [See House Rule XI 1(d)]

(2) *Other Documents.*

(i) Subject to paragraphs (ii) and (iii), the Chairman may approve the publication of any document as a Committee print which in the Chairman's discretion he determines to be useful for the information of the Committee.

(ii) Any document to be published as a Committee print that purports to express the views, findings, conclusions, or recommendations of the Committee or any of its Subcommittees, other than a report of the Committee on a measure that has been approved by the Committee or its Subcommittees, as applicable, in a meeting or otherwise in writing by a majority of the Members, and such Members shall have the right to submit supplemental, minority, or additional views for inclusion in the print within at least 48 hours after such approval.

(iii) Any document to be published as a Committee print, other than a document described in subsection (ii) of this Rule, shall: (a) include on its cover the following statement: “This document has been printed for informational purposes only and does not

represent either findings or recommendations adopted by this Committee;" and

(b) not be published following the sine die adjournment of a Congress, unless approved by the Chairman after consultation with the Ranking Member of the Committee.

(iv) A report of an investigation or study conducted jointly by the Committee and one or more other Committees may be filed jointly, provided that each of the Committees complies independently with all requirements for approval and filing of the report. [House Rule XI 1(b)(2)].

(v) After an adjournment of the last regular session of a Congress sine die, an investigative or oversight report approved by the Committee may be filed with the Clerk at any time, provided that if a Member gives notice at the time of approval of intention to file supplemental, minority, or additional views, that Member shall be entitled to not less than seven calendar days in which to submit such views for inclusion with the report. [House Rule XI 1(b)(4)]

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today.

Mr. FARR (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today through February 25 on account of medical reasons.

Ms. GABBARD (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today and the balance of the week on account of reporting for National Guard training duty.

Mr. ADERHOLT (at the request of Mr. CANTOR) for today on account of attending a funeral.

BILLS PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House, reported that on January 29, 2013, she presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bills:

H.R. 152. Making supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013, to improve and streamline disaster assistance for Hurricane Sandy, and for other purposes.

Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House, reported that on February 4, 2013, she presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bills:

H.R. 325. To ensure the complete and timely payment of the obligations of the United States Government until May 19, 2013, and for other purposes.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. JEFFRIES. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 9 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, February 5, 2013, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

179. A letter from the Director, Policy Issuances Division, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Uniform Compliance Date for Food Labeling Regulations [Docket No.: FSIS-2012-0039] (RIN: 0583-AD05) received January 22, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

180. A letter from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Approved Tests for Bovine Tuberculosis in Cervids [Docket No.: APHIS-2012-0087] received January 22, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

181. A letter from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Golden Nematode; Removal of Regulated Areas in Livingston and Steuben Counties, NY [Docket No.: APHIS-2012-0079] received January 22, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

182. A letter from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Traceability for Livestock Moving Interstate [Docket No.: APHIS-2009-0091] (RIN: 0579-AD24) (RIN: 0579-AD24) received January 22, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

183. A letter from the Deputy Secretary, Department of State, transmitting a letter strongly supporting Senator Leahy's amendment included as Section 1107 in H.R. 1 of the 112th Congress; to the Committee on Appropriations.

184. A letter from the Acting Under Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting authorization of 19 officers to wear the authorized insignia of the grade of brigadier general; to the Committee on Armed Services.

185. A letter from the Acting Principal Deputy, Department of Defense, transmitting a proposed change to the Fiscal Year 2011 National Guard and Reserve Equipment Appropriation (NGREA) procurement; to the Committee on Armed Services.

186. A letter from the Director, Office of Legislative Affairs, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, transmitting the Corporation's final rule — Community Reinvestment Act Regulations (RIN: 3064-AD90) received January 25, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

187. A letter from the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Lost Security holders and Unresponsive Payees [Release No.: 34-68668; File No. S7-11-11] (RIN: 3235-AL11) received January 17, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

188. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule — Relocation of and Spectrum Sharing by Federal Government Stations — Technical Panel and Dispute Resolution Boards [Docket No.: 120620177-2445-02] (RIN: 0660-AA26) received January 23, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

189. A letter from the Program Manager, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's "Major" final rule — Modifications to the HIPPA Privacy, Security, Enforcement, and Breach Notification Rules Under the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act and The Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act; Other Modifications to the HIPPA Rules (RIN: 0945-AA03) re-

ceived January 25, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

190. A letter from the Program Manager, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Modifications to the HIPPA Privacy, Security, Enforcement, and Breach Notification Rules Under the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act and The Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act; Other Modifications to the HIPPA Rules (RIN: 0945-AA03) received January 24, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

191. A letter from the Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the FY 2011 Superfund Five-Year Review Report to Congress, in accordance with the requirements in Section 121(c) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act, as amended by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

192. A letter from the Acting Secretary, Department of Commerce, transmitting a certification of export to China; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

193. A letter from the Acting Secretary, Department of Commerce, transmitting a certification of export to China; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

194. A letter from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting report prepared by the Department of State concerning international agreements other than treaties entered into by the United States to be transmitted to the Congress within the sixty-day period specified in the Case-Zablocki Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

195. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the Department's report pursuant to section 3 of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

196. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Applicable Federal Rates — February 2013 (Rev. Rul. 2013-3) received January 22, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. UPTON: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 297. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize support for graduate medical education programs in children's hospitals (Rept. 113-3). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. UPTON: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 225. A bill to amend title IV of the Public Health Service Act to provide for a National Pediatric Research Network, including with respect to pediatric rare diseases or conditions (Rept. 113-4). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. UPTON: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 235. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide grants to States to streamline State requirements and procedures for veterans with military emergency medical training to become civilian emergency medical technicians (Rept. 113-5). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. UPTON: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 267. A bill to improve hydro-power, and for other purposes (Rept. 113-6). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. UPTON: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 316. A bill to reinstate and transfer certain hydroelectric licenses and extend the deadline for commencement of construction of certain hydroelectric projects (Rept. 113-7). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. WOODALL: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 48. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 444) to require that, if the President's fiscal year 2014 budget does not achieve balance in a fiscal year covered by such budget, the President shall submit a supplemental unified budget by April 1, 2013, which identifies a fiscal year in which balance is achieved, and for other purposes (Rept. 113-8). Referred to the House Calendar.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York (for herself, Mr. RIGELL, Mr. MEEHAN, and Mr. CUMMINGS):

H.R. 452. A bill to prevent gun trafficking; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CASSIDY (for himself and Mr. PALAZZO):

H.R. 453. A bill to provide tax relief with respect to the Hurricane Isaac disaster area; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Appropriations, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. FATTAH (for himself, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, and Ms. SCHWARTZ):

H.R. 454. A bill to designate the medical center of the Department of Veterans Affairs located at 3900 Woodland Avenue in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, as the "Corporal Michael J. Crescenzo Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center"; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Ms. SLAUGHTER (for herself, Ms. BONAMICI, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. CONYERS, Ms. DELAURO, Ms. EDWARDS, Mr. ELLISON, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. HOLT, Mr. HONDA, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. ISRAEL, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Ms. LOFGREN, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Ms. MOORE, Ms. NORTON, Ms. PINGREE of Maine, Mr. POLIS, Ms. LINDA T. SANCHEZ of California, Ms. SCHWARTZ, Ms. TSONGAS, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Ms. WATERS, Mr. WAXMAN, and Mr. YARMUTH):

H.R. 455. A bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to direct certain coeducational elementary and secondary schools to make available information on equality in school athletic programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. SCHIFF (for himself, Mr. SHERMAN, and Mr. WAXMAN):

H.R. 456. A bill to require the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration to prescribe regulations to reduce helicopter noise pollution in certain residential areas, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. ISSA:

H.R. 457. A bill to amend section 276 of the Immigration and Nationality Act to impose mandatory sentencing ranges with respect to aliens who reenter the United States after having been removed, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. ISSA:

H.R. 458. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to provide for non-immigrant status for an alien who is the parent or legal guardian of a United States citizen child if the child was born abroad and is the child of a deceased member of the Armed Forces of the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. ISSA:

H.R. 459. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to promote innovation, investment, and research in the United States, to eliminate the diversity immigrant program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MCKINLEY (for himself, Mrs. CAPPAS, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. YOUNG of Florida, Mr. MORAN, Mr. WOLF, Mr. TONKO, Mr. RUNYAN, Mr. CONYERS, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. DEFazio, Mr. MICHAUD, Mr. FARR, Ms. PINGREE of Maine, Mr. RANGEL, and Mr. CRENSHAW):

H.R. 460. A bill to amend title XXVII of the Public Health Service Act to limit co-payment, coinsurance, or other cost-sharing requirements applicable to prescription drugs in a specialty drug tier to the dollar amount (or its equivalent) of such requirements applicable to prescription drugs in a non-preferred brand drug tier, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. BISHOP of Utah (for himself, Mr. CHAFFETZ, Mr. MATHESON, and Mr. STEWART):

H.R. 461. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to increase the maximum age limit for an original appointment to a position as a Federal law enforcement officer in the case of any individual who has been discharged or released from active duty in the Armed Forces under honorable conditions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. BISHOP of Utah (for himself, Mr. CHAFFETZ, Mr. MATHESON, and Mr. STEWART):

H.R. 462. A bill to require the conveyance of certain public land within the boundaries of Camp Williams, Utah, to support the training and readiness of the Utah National Guard; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mrs. BLACK:

H.R. 463. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to reform the provisions relating to status under section 101(a)(15)(U) of that Act; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CAPUANO:

H.R. 464. A bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to reduce the limit on the amount of certain contributions which may be made to a candidate with respect to an election for Federal office; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. CAPUANO:

H.R. 465. A bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to prohibit the conversion of leadership PAC funds to personal use; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. CAPUANO:

H.R. 466. A bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to prohibit the Commissioner of Social Security from publishing the social security numbers of deceased individuals in the Death Master File, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. CONNOLLY:

H.R. 467. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to redistribute Federal funds that would otherwise be made available to States that do not provide for the Medicaid expansion in accordance with the Affordable Care Act to those States electing to provide those Medicaid benefits; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. CONNOLLY:

H.R. 468. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide that payments under the Federal employees' group life insurance program shall be made in a lump sum, unless the insured or the recipient elects otherwise; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. CONNOLLY:

H.R. 469. A bill to reduce the heat island effect and associated ground level ozone pollution from Federal facilities; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. CONNOLLY:

H.R. 470. A bill to improve the efficiency of Federal Executive Boards to enhance the coordination, economy, and effectiveness of Federal agency activities, including emergency preparedness and continuity of operations, in geographic areas outside the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. CONNOLLY:

H.R. 471. A bill to provide for the more accurate computation of retirement benefits for certain firefighters employed by the Federal Government; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. CONNOLLY:

H.R. 472. A bill to reduce Federal expenditures associated with data center real estate and electricity consumption, to implement savings reductions proposed by Federal employees, to reduce energy costs across Federal Executive agencies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and in addition to the Committees on Armed Services, Transportation and Infrastructure, and Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CONNOLLY:

H.R. 473. A bill to amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act with respect to the qualification of the director of food services of a Medicare skilled nursing facility or a Medicaid nursing facility; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CONNOLLY:

H.R. 474. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a credit against income tax for qualified conservation contributions which include National Scenic Trails; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Natural Resources, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. GERLACH:

H.R. 475. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to include vaccines against seasonal influenza within the definition of taxable vaccines; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. GINGREY of Georgia (for himself and Mr. CONAWAY):

H.R. 476. A bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to require the President to submit with the budget an estimate of the deficit using generally accepted accounting principles, and to amend the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 to require the Congressional Budget Office to submit the same with its report to the Committees on the Budget of the House of Representatives and the Senate; to the Committee on the Budget.

By Mr. GINGREY of Georgia (for himself, Mrs. BLACK, Mr. PALAZZO, Mr. JONES, Ms. FOXX, Mr. WESTMORELAND, Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina, Mr. BARLETTA, Mr. ROHRBACHER, and Mr. NUNNELEE):

H.R. 477. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to make changes related to family-sponsored immigrants and to reduce the number of such immigrants, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GINGREY of Georgia:

H.R. 478. A bill to amend the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 (8 U.S.C. 1324a note) to make the E-Verify Program permanent and mandatory, and to provide for certain changes to procedures for participants in the Program; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. GRIJALVA (for himself, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. HOLT, Mr. HONDA, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. PINGREE of Maine, Mr. RANGEL, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. FARR, and Mr. ELLISON):

H.R. 479. A bill to prohibit the transfer of defense articles and defense services to the governments of foreign countries that are engaging in gross violations of internationally-recognized human rights, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. HASTINGS of Florida:

H.R. 480. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to disallow a deduction for amounts paid or incurred by a responsible party relating to a discharge of oil; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. HECK of Nevada:

H.R. 481. A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to accept certain documents as proof of service in determining the eligibility of an individual to receive amounts from the Filipino Veterans Equity Compensation Fund, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. HOLT (for himself, Mr. CAPUANO, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. McDERMOTT, Ms. CHU, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. SCHWARTZ, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. SIREN, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. HONDA, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. PAYNE, Ms. HAHN, Mr. DOYLE, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. POCAN, and Ms. MENG):

H.R. 482. A bill to prevent harassment at institutions of higher education, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. HUDSON:

H.R. 483. A bill to repeal the Federal estate and gift taxes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. HUNTER (for himself, Mr. HULTGREN, Mr. MULVANEY, Mrs. BACHMANN, Mr. GRIMM, Mr. RADEL, Mr. MICHAUD, Mr. NUNNELEE, Mr. PITTS, Mr. PALAZZO, Mr. KINZINGER of

Illinois, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. STUTZMAN, Mr. BROUN of Georgia, and Mr. LONG):

H.R. 484. A bill to recognize a primary measure of national unemployment for purposes of the Federal Government; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas (for herself, Mr. KING of New York, Ms. LINDA T. SANCHEZ of California, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. MORAN, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. CONYERS, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. DEFAZIO, Ms. NORTON, Mr. CICILLINE, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. DOGGETT, Mr. BEN RAY LUJAN of New Mexico, Mr. HONDA, Mr. HOLT, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. YARMUTH, Mr. WALDEN, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. WELCH, and Mr. SCHRAEDER):

H.R. 485. A bill to establish the position of National Nurse for Public Health, to be filled by the same individual serving as the Chief Nurse Officer of the Public Health Service; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. KEATING (for himself, Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky, Mr. RAHALL, Mr. LYNCH, Ms. HANABUSA, and Mr. BUCHANAN):

H.R. 486. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to incentivize the development of abuse-deterrent drugs; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mrs. MCMORRIS RODGERS (for herself and Mr. THOMPSON of California):

H.R. 487. A bill to provide for a Medicare primary care graduate medical education pilot project in order to improve access to the primary care workforce; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. PEARCE (for himself and Mr. BEN RAY LUJAN of New Mexico):

H.R. 488. A bill to amend the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 to clarify that uncertified States and Indian tribes have the authority to use certain payments for certain noncoal reclamation projects; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Ms. PINGREE of Maine (for herself and Mr. MICHAUD):

H.R. 489. A bill to expand the HUBZone program for communities affected by base realignment and closure, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Mr. QUIGLEY (for himself, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mr. HIGGINS, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois, Mr. LIPINSKI, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. SCHOCK, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Mr. KEATING, Mr. AMASH, Mr. HECK of Nevada, Ms. NORTON, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, and Mr. FOSTER):

H.R. 490. A bill to amend section 217 of the Immigration and Nationality Act to modify the visa waiver program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SMITH of New Jersey:

H.R. 491. A bill to prevent United States businesses from cooperating with repressive governments in transforming the Internet into a tool of censorship and surveillance, to fulfill the responsibility of the United States Government to promote freedom of expres-

sion on the Internet, to restore public confidence in the integrity of United States businesses, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, and Financial Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. STUTZMAN (for himself, Mr. MULVANEY, Mr. McCLINTOCK, Mr. WESTMORELAND, Mr. THORNBERRY, Mr. NUGENT, Mr. WOODALL, Mr. PEARCE, and Mr. YOUNG of Indiana):

H.R. 492. A bill to amend the Federal Reserve Act to remove the mandate on the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System and the Federal Open Market Committee to focus on maximum employment; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. CULBERSON:

H. Con. Res. 11. Concurrent resolution providing for a joint session of Congress to receive a message from the President; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. AL GREEN of Texas (for himself, Ms. EDWARDS, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. HONDA, Ms. CHU, Mr. HINOJOSA, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. RUSH, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Ms. MOORE, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. ELLISON, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. RICHMOND, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. CONYERS, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Ms. NORTON, Ms. BASS, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Ms. CLARKE, Mr. HORSFORD, Mr. JEFFRIES, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. WATT, Mr. FATTAH, Mr. LEWIS, Mr. CLEAVER, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Ms. FUDGE, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. VEASEY, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. COHEN, Ms. WATERS, Mr. CLYBURN, Mr. CLAY, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, and Ms. SEWELL of Alabama):

H. Res. 49. A resolution recognizing the significance of Black History Month; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. ISRAEL (for himself, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. CARTER, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. COOPER, Mr. COSTA, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. HIGGINS, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. LEVIN, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. POLIS, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. REED, Ms. LINDA T. SANCHEZ of California, Ms. SLAUGHTER, and Ms. SPEIER):

H. Res. 50. A resolution expressing support for designation of February 4, 2013, as National Cancer Prevention Day; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. LANGEVIN (for himself, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. SCHOCK, Mr. HOLT, and Mr. POLIS):

H. Res. 51. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that adding art and design into Federal programs that target the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) fields encourages innovation and economic growth in the United States; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and in addition to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York:

H.R. 452.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3

The Congress shall have Power * * * To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.

By Mr. CASSIDY:

H.R. 453.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. FATTAH:

H.R. 454.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Congress shall have Power to lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States.

By Ms. SLAUGHTER:

H.R. 455.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clauses 1, 3, and 18 of Section 8 of Article I of the Constitution

By Mr. SCHIFF:

H.R. 456.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Los Angeles Residential Helicopter Noise Relief Act is constitutionally authorized under Article I, Section 8, Clause 18, the Necessary and Proper Clause. The Necessary and Proper Clause supports the expansion of congressional authority beyond the explicit authorities that are directly discernible from the text.

By Mr. ISSA:

H.R. 457.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 5, Clauses 4 and 18 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. ISSA:

H.R. 458.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 4; 14th Amendment.

By Mr. ISSA:

H.R. 459.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 4, which states that Congress has the power to establish a uniform Rule of Naturalization.

By Mr. MCKINLEY:

H.R. 460.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

According to Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the Constitution: The Congress shall have power to enact this legislation to regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several states, and with the Indian tribes.

By Mr. BISHOP of Utah:

H.R. 461.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

"The constitutional authority of Congress to enact this legislation is provided by Article I, section 8 of the United States Constitution which grants Congress the power to provide for the general welfare of the United States; to make rules for the government and regulation of the land and naval forces; to provide for organizing the militia, and to make Rules for the Government and Regulation of the land and naval Forces, and to make all laws necessary and proper for carrying out the foregoing powers."

By Mr. BISHOP of Utah:

H.R. 462.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The constitutional authority of Congress to enact this legislation is provided by Article I, section 8 of the United States Constitution, specifically clause 14 (relating to the power of Congress to make rules for the government and regulation of the land and naval forces), clause 16 (relating to the power of Congress to provide for organizing, arming, and disciplining the militia), and clause 18 (relating to the power of Congress to make all laws necessary and proper for carrying out the powers vested in Congress); and Article IV, section 3, clause 2 (relating to the power of Congress to dispose of and make all needful rules and regulations respecting the territory or other property belonging to the United States).

By Mrs. BLACK:

H.R. 463.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Under Article I, Section 8, Clause 4 of the Constitution of the United States, Congress has the power to establish a uniform Rule of Naturalization.

By Mr. CAPUANO:

H.R. 464.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 3, Clause 1: "The Congress shall have the Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States;"

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3: "The Congress shall have Power . . . To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes."

By Mr. CAPUANO:

H.R. 465.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 3, Clause 1: "The Congress shall have the Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States;"

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3: "The Congress shall have Power . . . To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes."

By Mr. CAPUANO:

H.R. 466.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8: Congress shall have the power to make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. CONNOLLY:

H.R. 467.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. CONNOLLY:

H.R. 468.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18

By Mr. CONNOLLY:

H.R. 469.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18

By Mr. CONNOLLY:

H.R. 470.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 1 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution, and clause 18 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution.

By Mr. CONNOLLY:

H.R. 471.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18

By Mr. CONNOLLY:

H.R. 472.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 1 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution, and clause 18 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution.

By Mr. CONNOLLY:

H.R. 473.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

16 By Mr. CONNOLLY:

H.R. 474.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 1 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution, and clause 18 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution.

By Mr. GERLACH:

H.R. 475.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Congress enacts this bill pursuant to Clause 1 of Section 8 of Article I of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. GINGREY of Georgia:

H.R. 476.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 9, Clause 7, that states ". . . a regular Statement and Account of the Receipts and Expenditures of all public Money shall be published from time to time."

By Mr. GINGREY of Georgia:

H.R. 477.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 4 of the Constitution, which states that Congress has the power "to establish a uniform Rule of Naturalization and uniform Laws on the subject of Bankruptcies throughout the United States."

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18 of the Constitution, which states that Congress has the power to "make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States or in any Department or Officer thereof."

By Mr. GINGREY of Georgia:

H.R. 478.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3 of the Constitution, which states that the Congress has the power "to regulated Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes."

By Mr. GRIJALVA:

H.R. 479.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

U.S. Const. art. I, §1 and 8.

By Mr. HASTINGS of Florida:

H.R. 480.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the Constitution of the United States, including but not limited to Article I, Section 8, Clauses 1 and 3.

By Mr. HECK of Nevada:

H.R. 481.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution, to make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing Powers, and all other powers vested by the Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or officer thereof.

By Mr. HOLT:

H.R. 482.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. HUDSON:

H.R. 483.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Enumerated Powers of Congress. Article I., Section 8. The Congress shall have Power to lay and collect Taxes.

By Mr. HUNTER:

H.R. 484.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, section 8, clauses 1 and 18

"The Congress shall have the power to . . . provide for the common defense and general welfare of the United States."

"To make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers. . . ."

By Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas:

H.R. 485.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. KEATING:

H.R. 486.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS:

H.R. 487.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Constitutional authority in which this bill rests is the power of the Congress to regulate Commerce as enumerated by Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 as applied to healthcare.

By Mr. PEARCE:

H.R. 488.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States grants Congress the power to enact this law.

By Ms. PINGREE of Maine:

H.R. 489.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 3 of Section 8 of Article I of the Constitution.

By Mr. QUIGLEY:

H.R. 490.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. SMITH of New Jersey:

H.R. 491.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3

To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.

By Mr. STUTZMAN:

H.R. 492.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Congress enacts this bill pursuant to Clause 5 of Section 8 of Article I of the United States Constitution.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions as follows:

H.R. 11: Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. PETERS of California, Mr. TIERNEY, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. ISRAEL, Mr. TONKO, Mr. BARBER, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. KEATING, Mr. HOYER, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, and Mr. PAYNE.

H.R. 22: Ms. ESHOO and Mr. STOCKMAN.

H.R. 32: Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. BISHOP of New York, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. MICA, and Mr. POSEY.

H.R. 44: Ms. GABBARD.

H.R. 61: Mr. HENSARLING and Mr. LATTA.

H.R. 69: Mr. BLUMENAUER.

H.R. 71: Mr. MORAN.

H.R. 102: Mr. DINGELL.

H.R. 117: Mr. BISHOP of New York.

H.R. 124: Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. PALAZZO, and Mr. RYAN of Ohio.

H.R. 146: Mr. HOLT, Mr. GRIJALVA, and Mr. YARMUTH.

H.R. 148: Mr. SCHIFF and Mr. LANGEVIN.

H.R. 149: Mr. TERRY.

H.R. 164: Ms. HANABUSA.

H.R. 165: Mr. GRIMM.

H.R. 182: Mr. GIBSON, Mr. CONYERS, and Mr. POCAN.

H.R. 200: Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. MCDERMOTT, and Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California.

H.R. 217: Mr. RAHALL, Mr. MCKEON, Mr. CRENSHAW, and Mr. DESJARLAIS.

H.R. 229: Mr. LEWIS and Mr. HONDA.

H.R. 235: Mr. BRALEY of Iowa, Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. MICHAUD, Mr. RAHALL, and Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois.

H.R. 236: Mr. PRICE of North Carolina and Ms. MCCOLLUM.

H.R. 258: Mr. ROKITA, Mr. YODER, Mr. POE of Texas, Mr. FORBES, Mrs. WAGNER, Mr. RENACCI, Mr. HOLDING, Mr. FORTENBERRY, Mr. WHITFIELD, Mr. MEADOWS, and Mr. KLINE.

H.R. 269: Mr. CONYERS, Mr. DOYLE, Ms. EDWARDS, Mr. ISRAEL, and Mr. SCOTT of Virginia.

H.R. 279: Mr. BACHUS.

H.R. 282: Mr. NUGENT, Mr. CASSIDY, and Mr. BURGESS.

H.R. 285: Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, Mr. RANGEL, and Mr. ELLISON.

H.R. 297: Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. LATTA, Mr. STIVERS, Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. DENT, Mrs. BEATTY, and Mr. MICHAUD.

H.R. 300: Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. RADEL, Mr. SCHOCK, Mr. FARENTHOLD, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. FINCHER, Mr. FOSTER, and Ms. BROWNLEY of California.

H.R. 305: Ms. SEWELL of Alabama.

H.R. 311: Mr. NUNNELEE and Mr. KLINE.

H.R. 317: Mr. WESTMORELAND and Mr. AMASH.

H.R. 321: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia and Mr. GUTIERREZ.

H.R. 333: Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. YARMUTH, Mr. BISHOP of New York, and Ms. BROWNLEY of California.

H.R. 334: Mr. RADEL.

H.R. 335: Mr. BENISHEK and Mr. STOCKMAN.

H.R. 341: Mr. HINOJOSA, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. LEWIS, Ms. SEWELL of Alabama, and Ms. LINDA T. SANCHEZ of California.

H.R. 342: Mr. LATTA, Mr. STEWART, Mr. FORBES, Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. ENYART, and Mr. KLINE.

H.R. 346: Mr. JONES, Mr. ROE of Tennessee, Mr. HULTGREN, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsyl-

vania, Mr. FINCHER, Mr. HARPER, Mr. BOUTSTANY, Mrs. WAGNER, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Mr. WESTMORELAND, Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee, Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina, Mr. NEUGEBAUER, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. PEARCE, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. BUCHANAN, Mr. FORTENBERRY, Mr. MCINTYRE, Mr. HUELSKAMP, and Mr. BENISHEK.

H.R. 351: Mr. COTTON, Mr. HALL, Mr. BARR, and Mr. STOCKMAN.

H.R. 357: Mr. JONES, Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas, and Mr. NUGENT.

H.R. 366: Mr. WHITFIELD, Mr. LANCE, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, and Mr. CHABOT.

H.R. 367: Mr. CULBERSON and Mr. LAMALFA.

H.R. 370: Mr. HENSARLING and Mr. STUTZMAN.

H.R. 377: Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Mr. SWALWELL of California, and Mr. MAFFEI.

H.R. 427: Mr. CICILLINE and Ms. JACKSON LEE.

H.R. 435: Mr. GUTIERREZ.

H.R. 444: Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. BUCHANAN, Mr. MESSER, Mr. NUGENT, Mr. CHAFFETZ, Mr. ROKITA, Mr. WESTMORELAND, Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. CULBERSON, Mr. POSEY, Mr. HUIZenga of Michigan, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. STEWART, Mr. SCALISE, Mr. YOUNG of Indiana, Mr. MEADOWS, Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. HUDSON, Mr. NUNNELEE, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. HULTGREN, Mr. WALBERG, Mr. WALDEN, Mr. HENSARLING, Mrs. BLACK, Mr. JOYCE, Mr. BRIDENSTINE, AND Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mr. ROSS, Mr. KING of Iowa, Mr. MCKINLEY, Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana, Mr. SCHWEIKERT, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. BARR, Mr. BUCHON, Mr. JONES, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. RENACCI, Mr. BONNER, and Mr. CHABOT.

H.J. Res. 20: Mr. KENNEDY and Mr. MCDERMOTT.

H.J. Res. 21: Mr. KENNEDY and Mr. MCDERMOTT.

H. Con. Res. 4: Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York.

H. Res. 24: Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas, Mr. OLSON, Mr. MARCHANT, Mr. YOUNG of Indiana, and Mr. GOODLATTE.

H. Res. 47: Mr. SWALWELL of California.

CONGRESSIONAL EARMARKS, LIMITED TAX BENEFITS, OR LIMITED TARIFF BENEFITS

Under clause 9 of rule XXI, lists or statements on congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits were submitted as follows:

OFFERED BY MR. RYAN OF WISCONSIN

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on the Budget in H.R. 444, Require a PLAN Act of 2013, do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

PETITIONS, ETC.

Under clause 3 of rule XII, petitions and papers were laid on the clerk's desk and referred as follows:

1. The SPEAKER presented a petition of The Township of Edison, New Jersey, relative to Resolution R.839-122012 urging the President, Governor, and Legislators to enact more stringent gun laws; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

2. Also, a petition of The Borough of Roselle, New Jersey, relative to Resolution Number 2012-435 supporting Gun Control; to the Committee on the Judiciary.